THE TALON

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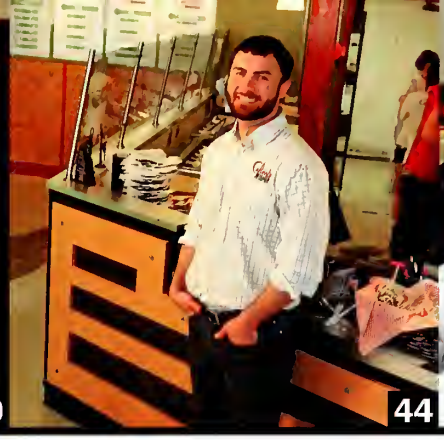

THE TALON

SOUTHERN MISS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION • FALL 2011

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36 | SECRET ADMIRERS

An excerpt from the book, *Treasured Past. Golden Future: The University of Southern Mississippi,* 1910-2010 by Southern Miss Alumnus Dr. Chester "Bo" Morgan, "Secret Admirers" takes a look at a few of the secret societies that inhabit The University of Southern Mississippi including the Society of 1910 and The Gold Leaf.

40 | SCIANNA INVESTS $5 MILLION TO BUILD BETTER BUSINESS

With the commitment of $5 million to The University of Southern Mississippi Foundation, Southern Miss alumnus and Bay St. Louis native Charles "Chuck" C. Scianna Jr. is making an investment in the future of our University; this gift will name the proposed College of Business building Scianna Hall. Scianna credits much of his success to the education he received at Southern Miss.

44 | THE CREATION OF CALIENTE GRILLE

Caliente Grille, a Hattiesburg staple, opened its doors on August 30, 2007, and has not stopped giving back to Southern Miss or the Hattiesburg community ever since through promotions and contributions to several local organizations. As the restaurant celebrates its fourth anniversary, owner Charles Arinder reflects on how its development began and the direction he would like to see it take in the future.

46 | THE VOICE FOR AUTISM

The only Harry S. Truman Scholarship winner from Mississippi for 2011, this issue's Sighting Southern Star, Marie Holowach, made history by having the first non-distinctly governmental background when chosen as a winner. This speech pathology major has a passion for autism, and her zealous dedication to her area of interest has led Holowach to become a leader in the autistic community.

FRONT COVER: CHARLES "CHUCK" C. SCIANNA JR. HAS MADE A $5 MILLION INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI. THE GIFT WILL NAME THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS BUILDING SCIANNA HALL. PHOTO BY KELLY DUNN.

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BLACK & GOLD

runs in this family.

DOES IT RUN IN YOURS?

LINDSAY WARD (LEFT) PICTURED WITH HER SISTER, LAUREN WARD ('06)

"The only college I applied to was **Southern Miss**."

- LINDSAY WARD, SENIOR, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATI
DAUGHTER OF LARRY WARD ('77) AND VIVIAN LEE WARD ('8

Southern Miss is a family, and you're an important part of keeping the **black and gold spirit** alive. It's never too early to start. Visit campus, attend a Southern Miss sporting event, or simply tell your child about your college experience.

From the nest until they spread their wings, **make Southern Miss a part of your family tradition.**

Recommend a Student

Over the past year I have often been asked, "What does the Alumni Association do?" It is always easy for me to rattle off the number of scholarships we generate, University programs we support, or publications we distribute; however, I am not sure these items fully explain the scope of the organization. The Alumni Association's mission statement is as follows:

> To build a feeling of pride and loyalty among the alumni of the institution while strengthening participation in alumni and University programs; to coordinate the efforts of alumni on behalf of the University as a whole; and to provide a unified voice for all alumni in the affairs of the University

Simply put, our job is to share Southern Miss stories, generating excitement among alumni and friends of the institution. The Association works to engage alumni at the most basic level of participation and inform members of additional opportunities for service within the University community.

Under the leadership of Past President Curt Hébert, the Association has been working to create a new strategic plan aimed at developing a roadmap to guide the organization over the next five years. In the initial discussions regarding this planning process, the leadership of the Association agreed we needed to develop a new slate of initiatives that would help achieve the mission of our organization.

Throughout this process our goal was not simply to create a document we could put on a shelf, but to develop a plan that would allow the Association to continue to play a major role in the success of The University of Southern Mississippi. The process for creating this plan included focus group sessions with volunteer leadership, visits with regional chapter leaders, a review of best practices utilized by associations similar in size and resources, feedback from alumni and friends, and interviews with key University leadership.

As the discussions and interviews were completed and the final draft of the new plan was nearing completion, several areas of focus became clear. While I won't take the time in this space to outline each of the items included in the final plan, I want to share with you one item I believe we can all work together to achieve that will truly change the future of Southern Miss.

During the various discussions hosted regarding the development of this plan, one item was mentioned in almost every instance. The individuals and groups we visited with all felt we did not maximize our relationships with alumni in recruiting new students to Southern Miss. As our staff began to evaluate these concerns, we found in many cases the information regarding children of Southern Miss alumni was incomplete. Therefore, our legacies are receiving the same recruitment experience as students with no ties to the institution. We believe this is a situation we must change as we continue to grow and develop as a University.

At many institutions, children are constantly educated on the importance of their parents' alma mater. They are taken to football games, arts events and even summer camps. It is our job as alumni to ensure our children are brought up with a relationship to our university. Over the next few months, our staff will develop a plan aimed at creating a process to identify, educate and recruit the children of alumni to Southern Miss.

As we define this process, you will receive several opportunities to provide us with the names of your children, along with some information to help us ensure they are recruited appropriately. This is certainly an area we can all work together to improve, and there is no doubt by providing our legacies with additional attention throughout their lives, we will see an increase in the number of second- and third-generation Southern Miss students.

If you have an interest in taking a look at the complete 2011-15 Strategic Plan, you may access it online at SouthernMissAlumni.com. Thank you for your membership in the Alumni Association. Your support provides us with the resources necessary to engage in initiatives such as these, and we truly appreciate your support.

Southern Miss to the Top!

Jerry B. DeFatta Jr.
Executive Director

Children's Center Director Buttross-Brinegar Says Time was Right to Retire

Margaret Buttross-Brinegar gave The University of Southern Mississippi more than 30 years of unfailing service. Along the way, she gave thousands of developmentally challenged children unwavering support and direction. And now she's ready to give retirement a try.

Children's Center Director Margaret Buttross-Brinegar, right, and speech-language pathologist Lari Burgess work with 3-year-old Mackenzie Samples. Buttross-Brinegar retired in June after more than 30 years at the University.

Buttross-Brinegar, longtime director of The Children's Center for Communication and Development at Southern Miss, retired at the end of June noting that "the center and I are ready for a new chapter. This change just feels right."

One way to measure an employee's legacy is by examining the footprints he or she leaves behind. Colleagues who have worked alongside Buttross-Brinegar marvel at her boundless energy and sincere commitment to children.

A Natchez native and Southern Miss alumna (1974), Buttross-Brinegar joined the Southern Miss Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences as a Clinical Supervisor and Speech-Language Clinician in 1979. Promoted to assistant director of The Children's Center in 1981, she took over as director in 1997.

The Children's Center, a United Way agency, provides a trans-disciplinary team approach to the assessment and treatment of children with communication and developmental disabilities. Infants, toddlers and preschoolers receive services in their home or at the center, depending upon their needs.

In the past 20 years the center's client numbers have grown from 25 children/students to a capacity of 90 today. Over that time the staff has multiplied from four speech-language pathologists to a 14-person professional team that includes a special educator, physical and occupational therapist, behavior therapist, resource development coordinator and office manager.

The center has also evolved into a highly respected clinical training site, not only for speech-language pathologists but other related disciplines. William Carey University, University Medical Center, University of South Alabama and Pearl River Community College have all sent students to The Children's Center for training.

Buttross-Brinegar derives her greatest satisfaction from the smiles on the faces of children who overcome great adversity and from the smiles of proud and appreciative parents.

Dr. Steven Cloud, chair of the Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences at Southern Miss, calls Buttross-Brinegar "irreplaceable" noting that when she joined the staff only a handful of children attended what was then known as the Preschool Language Program. To make matters worse, the program was "$10,000 in the hole."

Cloud credits Buttross-Brinegar for bringing national recognition to The Children's Center which now features a 5,000-square-foot facility including a state-of-the-art adaptive playground/outdoor classroom. Families travel as far as 90 miles one way to take advantage of the center's unique services.

"She'll be missed terribly, but I know that she'll be extremely successful in whatever she decides to do in the future. And we want to say thanks for all she's done for us at Southern Miss."

Buttross-Brinegar has no qualms about leaving the center at this point in its proud history. Special educator Cindy Bivins has agreed to serve as interim director while a new future for the center is strategized.

Did you KNOW?

Did you know that a QR code, also known as a Quick Response code, works similarly to a bar code? Smartphone users can use them to promptly download or access information. To read a code, simply download a free application available on many phones. Scan the code here to visit the Southern Miss Alumni Association website and be on the lookout for additional codes throughout this issue and future Association publications.

Reynolds Wins Miss Hospitality Pageant

Ann Claire Reynolds

Ann Claire Reynolds of Petal, a University of Southern Mississippi student double-majoring in special education and elementary education, was crowned the state's Miss Hospitality after winning the pageant July 29 at the historic Saenger Theater in downtown Hattiesburg.

Her duties as Miss Hospitality include traveling across Mississippi and beyond to promote tourism in the state and its many economic development opportunities, including the annual Mississippi Day in the Park in New York City.

At Southern Miss, Reynolds is a member of Lambda Sigma Honorary Society and Eagle Connection, a student recruitment organization, as well as her sorority, Chi Omega. She also serves on the programming committee for the University's Student Government Association.

Southern Miss, City of Hattiesburg Partner on National 9/11 Memorial Project

Metal artifacts from the collapsed World Trade Center twin towers will become part of a permanent memorial at The University of Southern Mississippi thanks to a special arrangement with the City of Hattiesburg.

Two pieces of twisted steel, secured by the City of Hattiesburg, will be transported from New York City to Hattiesburg in time for an official transfer to the University at halftime of Southern Miss' football season opener against Louisiana Tech on Sept. 3 at M.M. Roberts Stadium. The fragments are described as cut steel wall spandrel measuring 72 inches in length by 12 inches wide and 1-inch thick. Each piece weighs approximately 200 pounds.

Hattiesburg Mayor Johnny DuPree made a request on the city's behalf for artifacts from the demolished World Trade Center almost two years ago. After receiving notification that the request had been approved, DuPree decided that the National Center for Spectator Sports Safety and Security (NCS4) at Southern Miss would serve as the appropriate home to honor the memory of those who perished and those who survived the attacks.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. 2,819 people died on Sept. 11, 2001, when terrorists hijacked four U.S. commercial airplanes and redirected them on suicide missions.

Southern Miss President Martha Saunders will accept the pieces on behalf of the University during the halftime ceremony.

Dr. Lou Marciani, NCS4 director, said plans call for the University to initiate a fundraising campaign to erect a fitting memorial that will serve as a reminder to those attending sporting events at Southern Miss and around the world that the National Center is committed to the priority of making sport venues safe and secure.

NASCAR Chief Stresses Safety and Security at National Conference

NASCAR President Mike Helton

NASCAR President Mike Helton offered a salient question to a packed crowd on the opening day of the 2011 National Sports Safety and Security Conference and Exhibition in New Orleans.

"How do you place a value on being safe?" asked Helton, who delivered one of the keynote addresses to those gathered at the Roosevelt Hotel for the three-day conference.

More than 400 security professionals attended the conference, which also featured 56 vendor exhibits. The conference was sponsored by the National Center for Spectator Sports Safety and Security (NCS4) at The University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, Miss.

Southern Miss President Martha Saunders emphasized the importance of the work being done at NCS4 and beyond in her opening remarks.

Helton pointed out that 17 of the top 20 sporting events every year, attendance-wise, are NASCAR races. With crowds topping 100,000 on any given weekend, Helton says safety ranks as his organization's top priority.

The 2011 National Sports Safety and Security Conference and Exhibition wrapped up Aug. 4 with a keynote address by noted author Amanda Ripley and presentation of the Facility Achievement Awards.

NASA Officials' Visit Spotlights Partnership with Southern Miss

Patrick Scheuermann, left, director of NASA's John C. Stennis Space Center, makes a point while touring The University of Southern Mississippi's Accelerator business incubator on June 22. At right is Accelerator Executive Director Sunny Webb.

On June 22, officials from NASA's John C. Stennis Space Center spent time in Hattiesburg to get a first-hand look at how the grant money, provided by NASA to Southern Miss, is being used.

Bryan Brister, director of the Mississippi Polymer Institute (MPI) housed within The Accelerator, a 60,000-square foot incubator, noted that $1 million in NASA grant money helped outfit the facility with state-of-the-art research technology. Thanks to the grant funding, the institute managed to leapfrog its prototyping capability by purchasing top-flight equipment for non-destructive laser scanning and 3D printing.

Brister notes that the close relationship with NASA yields significant payoffs such as allowing MPI to bring cutting-edge technologies to bear on behalf of Mississippi-based companies.

A $75,000 grant provided by NASA enabled NCS4 officials to secure a new multi-touch, multi-user surface computer. Developed by NVision, the computer runs the REACT/SportEvac software being used by NCS4 in designing and conducting table-top training exercises.

NCS4 Director Dr. Lou Marciani points out that the grant extension represents a perfect illustration of the important alliance that exists between Southern Miss and NASA.

Centennial Campaign Lands Southern Miss Top Public Relations Award

The Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) has honored The University of Southern Mississippi with a Silver Anvil Award, signifying the highest level of achievement in public relations practices.

The University bested associations and nonprofit organizations in the category of Events and Observances of Seven or More Days for its entry, "The Southern Miss Story: Enriching the Brand of a Research University Through a Centennial Celebration." A first for the University, the Silver Anvil honor is the second for University President Martha Saunders, a PRSA member who won a 1995 Silver Anvil for her role in a public safety communication campaign, "Just 2 It!," at the University of West Florida.

"The Silver Anvil is a coveted award among communication professionals," Saunders said. "We were in fine company with finalists from big companies such as Pepsico, American Express, eBay and FedEx to name just a few."

The University's entry included information on events and publicity, videos, publications, and more from 2010. Southern Miss celebrated the Centennial anniversary of its March 30, 1910, founding throughout the calendar year.

The celebration included events such as a Symphony Orchestra performance with world-famous soprano Renée Fleming, a University-wide Commencement ceremony featuring an address from former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani, and unmatched Founders' Day and Homecoming celebrations. A pair of videos conveying the Southern Miss story and a look ahead at the next 100 years also highlighted the entry.

"So many people put in countless hours to make our Centennial a success," Saunders said. "I am glad to see them get the recognition they deserve."

PRSA also recognized the University with Silver Anvil Awards of Excellence for the same entry in two additional categories, Reputation/Brand Management and Integrated Communications. The University's Centennial history book, "Treasured Past, Golden Future: The Centennial History of The University of Southern Mississippi," was honored with a Bronze Anvil Award of Excellence.

PRSA is the nation's largest community of public relations and communications professionals. Its 31,000 members represent nearly every practice area and professional and academic setting in the public relations field. The Silver Anvils, which PRSA began awarding in 1946, are regarded as the pre-eminent achievement of public relations -- the highest watermark of success for any practitioner and organization.

Gulf Coast Grads Make Most of Cannes Film Festival Internship

Even though Southern Miss Gulf Coast graduates Brian Alexander, right, and Todd Avera could not take part in the University's commencement ceremony May 15, the two took a part of Southern Miss with them during their internship at the Cannes Film Festival.

While The University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast hosted its spring commencement ceremony May 15, graduates Brian Alexander and Todd Avera continued enhancing their education nearly 5,000 miles away at one of the world's most widely known film festivals.

Alexander and Avera, who both earned their Bachelor of Arts degree in radio, television and film, were accepted into the American Pavilion Cannes Film Festival Worldwide Student Internship Program. The recent graduates took part in the program for two weeks in Cannes, France. As interns, Alexander and Avera worked six hours each day engaged in various assignments, including managing audiovisual equipment and promoting various film screenings at the festival.

When interns were not working, they were given the freedom to attend film screenings, panel discussions and explore the French Riviera. Alexander described his first venture outside of the U.S. as "being a fish out of water."

Alexander and Avera both credit their film professors, Dixon McDowell and Dr. Phillip Gentile, with introducing them to the program.

In addition to understanding the inner workings of the film industry, interns were also given the opportunity to network with professionals whose roles varied from actors to production.

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RIDE
WITH
PRIDE!

The **OFFICIAL SOUTHERN MISS LICENSE PLATE** has been redesigned!

The new plates, featuring the Golden Eagle logo, are now available by popular demand. Show your support for the University with the new official collegiate license plate. Southern Miss plates can be purchased from your county Tax Collector's Office.

THE UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

www.usm.edu/tag

GCRL's Summer Program Offers New Field-Based Classes for College Credit

Zaida Hager, 2011 Summer Field Program student at Southern Miss' Gulf Coast Research Lab, holds a specimen discovered during the marine invertebrate class' trip to Horn Island. Dr. Richard Heard, left, and Southern Miss grad student T.J. Faytan are pictured in the background.

College students from across the U.S. travel to the Mississippi Gulf Coast every summer to experience the "hands-on learning" offered at GCRL's Summer Field Program. This year the summer program's enrollment was up with students in attendance from 44 colleges and universities across 19 states.

Several new classes were introduced this year including coastal herpetology, dolphin and whale behavior, and coastal marine geology.

College students who attend these summer sessions can earn up to 18 semester hours of science credit while attending the field-based program.

First term courses which ran May 31-June 28 were marine biology, shark biology, marine invertebrate zoology, marine ecology, and parasites of marine animals. Second term offerings, which ran from June 29-July 28, included marine biology, oceanography, marine mammals, marine ichthyology and marine aquaculture.

A third term mini-session was offered August 1-12 with three courses including oceans and human health, coastal marine geology and marine toxicology.

Options were also available for upperclassmen to conduct independent research under the direction of a GCRL scientist. Research areas with a marine focus include aquaculture, biodiversity, submerged aquatic vegetation, ecology, mycology, journalism, genetics, remote sensing, education, fisheries, parasitology, pathology and toxicology.

For more information, visit usm.edu/gcrl.

Brooks Abel of McComb, left and Nicolas Treat of Hattiesburg are shown conducting preliminary research focusing on polymer nanocarriers for cancer therapeutics in the laboratory of Dr. Charles McCormick at The University of Southern Mississippi. The two will continue their education with the support of a NSF Graduate Research Fellowship.

Southern Miss Students, Alums Earn Prestigious NSF Fellowships

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has chosen five current and former University of Southern Mississippi students in its effort to prepare the next generation of top science educators and researchers.

Nicolas Treat of Hattiesburg, Brooks Abel of McComb and Jennifer Lamb of Brandon are recipients of a 2011 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP). The program's goal is to ensure the vitality of the nation's human resource base of science and engineering expertise and reinforce its diversity by supporting those pursuing graduate degrees in these fields.

Southern Miss alums that also received a NSF Graduate Research Fellowship this year include Laura Beth Moore, a graduate student at Yale University; and Michael Ides, a graduate student at the University of Kentucky.

Fellowship recipients receive three years of support that includes a $30,000 annual stipend; $10,500 cost-of-education allowance; international research and professional development opportunities; and TeraGrid Supercomputer access.

Current students interested in learning more about scholarships, fellowships and other types of support for their education should contact Robyn Curtis at robyn.curtis@usm.edu.

SOUTHERN MISS TRiVIA

Here are a few questions to test your knowledge of Southern Miss history. Answer four or five correctly, and we'll assume you are a former University archives staff member. Answer two or three accurately, and you can consider yourself a loyal alumnus or alumna. Answer zero or one correctly, and you may want to double check to make sure your diploma is not from a university in north Mississippi.

1. Who was the governor of Mississippi who signed the enabling act passed by the state legislature that created the University on March 30, 1910?
2. What is the full name of the Southern Miss Golden Eagle mascot, and where did it originate?
3. When was the University's fight song, "Southern Miss to the Top!," originally written?
4. Where is the Roberts Schoolhouse located, and what is its significance?

SEE THE ANSWERS ON PAGE 63

Partners for the Arts

"The work of the community based Partners for the Arts with the College of Arts and Letters makes possible many of the awe-inspiring productions to the area."

- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PARTNERS AND INTERIM DEAN
DR. STEVEN MOSER

To view a list of fall semester events or for more information, visit usm.edu/pfta.

To join or find out more about Partners for the Arts, call 601.266.5922.

Upcoming Events Calendar

All events are subject to change and should be confirmed. Any questions regarding these events can be directed to the Southern Miss Alumni Association at alumni@usm.edu or call 601.266.5013. Please visit SouthernMissAlumni.com for the most up-to-date calendar. All events are located on the Hattiesburg Campus unless otherwise noted. For athletics schedules, visit SouthernMiss.com. The football and home volleyball schedules are included in the Athletic News section of this edition of *The Talon*.

September

29 **Viva la France** | Southern Miss Symphony Orchestra Concert | Bennett Auditorium | 7:30 p.m. Tickets available through southernmisstickets.com 601.266.4001

October

14 **Law Constituent Society Seminar** Trent Lott National Center | 8 a.m.

OCTOBER 21-22
HOMECOMING 2011

21 **Homecoming Golf Tournament** Hattiesburg Country Club 8:30 a.m.

Alumni Hall of Fame Dinner Thad Cochran Center 6:30 p.m.

22 **Homecoming 5K Eagle Run**

Homecoming Parade Downtown Hattiesburg | 10 a.m.

Alumni Awards Lunch and Business Meeting Thad Cochran Center | Noon

Homecoming Football Game vs. SMU | The Rock 7 p.m. | For tickets visit SouthernMissTickets.com or call 1.800.844.TICK or 601.266.5418

27 **Rule Britannia** | Southern Miss Symphony Orchestra Concert | Bennett Auditorium | 7:30 p.m. Tickets available through southernmisstickets.com 601.266.4001

December

1 **Holiday Choral Spectacular** | Concert featuring combined choirs and orchestra | Main Street Baptist Church | 7:30 p.m. | Tickets available through southernmisstickets.com | 601.266.4001

2 **Accounting Constituent Society Seminar** Location TBA | 8 a.m.

PREPARING FOR COLLEGE:

STANDARDIZED TESTS

Allison Bruton, M.Ed. '99, '08
DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS FOR RECRUITMENT
OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS, THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

After working in college admissions and recruitment for more then 10 years, here are some of the most common questions and myths I've encountered about standardized test-taking among students and parents.

How soon should my high school student start taking the ACT or SAT?
Ideally, earlier is better (late sophomore or early junior year). Early test-taking affords your student several benefits. First, it allows your student to gain familiarity with the test-taking environment, which can reduce anxiety for future testing. Second, early test-taking will identify areas for improvement and help you and your student set realistic goals for future test scores. While every parent dreams of a perfect 36 ACT score and a full scholarship, it's important for parents to help their student work toward the best score that can be realistically achieved.

What does my student have to score in order to get an academic scholarship?
A standardized test score is just one component in scholarship awarding. Colleges and universities look at many factors when awarding scholarships. In fact, some colleges will put a higher premium on grade point average than test scores. Students seeking scholarships should strive to earn good grades and a strong test score as well as establish a record of involvement in school and community activities. It is true, however, that a strong standardized test score can get your student's foot in the door for scholarship consideration. It is also important to remember that not all scholarships are full-paid rides. (In fact, most are not!) The smart thing to do is early research on scholarship opportunities and consideration requirements at the schools in which your student is expressing interest. That sort of knowledge will give you the ability to align your student's test score reality with his or her scholarship potential and avoid senior year surprises when the scholarship offers are made.

We're not ready for colleges and universities to see his or her test score yet.
I totally understand the logic behind this decision: you want colleges and universities to see your student's best test score. But here's some insider scoop: we're going to see a history of your student's test scores anyway. Typically, a student's test scores are listed on his high school transcript. Don't worry; most colleges and universities will almost always only consider the highest test score achieved (provided it was earned within a scholarship or admission consideration deadline). In fact, I would encourage students to go ahead and send their test scores to the colleges and universities in which they are interested. It's an opportunity for those schools to recruit your student and for your student to more fully explore his or her interest.

Would you like your students to be recruited by Southern Miss? Make sure they send their test scores to Southern Miss. You can also fill out a "Recommend a Student" form located on the Alumni Association website or connect with an admissions counselor in your area online at usm.edu/admissions.

OUR PROFESSORS ARE GOING PLACES.

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Dr. Mac Alford, Southern Miss biological sciences professor and herbarium curator, is the most recent recipient of the prestigious and highly competitive Fulbright Foreign Scholarship. Dr. Alford's nine-month appointment at the University of Novi Sad in Serbia will give him the opportunity to study tropical plant life in the region and foster solid international relationships.

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Williams Named President of the Southern Miss Alumni Association

Dr. Alvin Williams has dedicated over 30 years to The University of Southern Mississippi, and while the majority of his efforts have been as a professor and administrator, he was most recently named president of the Alumni Association. In his role with the Association, Williams, a member of the Alumni Hall of Fame and 2010-11 president-elect, is part of an executive committee that provides guidance for the Association's operations.

Dr. Alvin Williams

"As president-elect, the past year has offered an exciting opportunity to learn and appreciate the depth and breadth of the Alumni Association's contributions to all things Southern Miss," said Williams. "I was consistently amazed at the range of activities, relationships and tasks required to make this an exemplary organization. The superb Alumni staff demonstrated commitment, professionalism and the willingness to go the extra mile to support the Southern Miss family and to strengthen our brand name."

With a newly finalized strategic overview in place, Williams will guide the organization as it begins to implement and carry out specific aspects of this plan. Among other initiatives, a top priority in this role will include working with the University staff and volunteers to ensure children and grandchildren of alumni are recruited effectively, as well as continued support and investment in The Legacy, the student chapter of the Alumni Association, to increase membership and, more importantly, participation.

Joining Williams on the executive committee are President-Elect Dale Shearer of Ridgeland, Vice President Benny Waddle of Hattiesburg, Past President Randy Pope of Hattiesburg and Finance Committee Chairman Donnie Tynes of Madison.

"The coming year will build on the solid leadership foundation of Past President Randy Pope," Williams shared. "We hope to continue building a strong sense of Southern Miss community, assist in the implementation of our new strategic plan, strengthen our reach to the various market segments, consider innovative ways of sharing the Southern Miss story and to encourage more alumni and friends to re-commit to their University. As we move into this new year, efforts to harness and leverage the tremendous energy of the Southern Miss family will be among our key initiatives."

Williams earned a bachelor's degree from Southern Miss in 1974, master's degree from the University of Alabama, and his Ph.D. from the University of Arkansas. He was interim dean of the College of Business and professor of marketing at Southern Miss, where he worked from 1980 to 2008. Williams also served as a department chair from 1988 to 2005. He is past president of the Society for Marketing Advances and past editor of the *Journal of Supply Chain Management*.

Williams has conducted more than 350 presentations and seminars for supply management and marketing professionals in the U.S., Europe, South Africa and China. He has published in various academic and professional journals in marketing and supply management, including *Industrial Marketing Management*, the *Journal of Supply Chain Management*, *Supply Chain Management Review* and the *Journal of Personal Selling and Sales Management*. Williams is currently a distinguished professor of marketing at the University of South Alabama's Mitchell

College of Business. In addition to academia, Williams strongly believes in University service and co-chaired the Southern Miss Centennial Celebration Steering Committee.

His civic and community activities have included, at various times, Boy Scouts of America, which honored him with the Silver Beaver Award, Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club board, United Way of Southeast Mississippi, Area Development Partnership board and the USM Foundation board. He is married to Lourinda Williams '75, '77, and the Life Members of the Alumni Association have two daughters, Adria and Aprille.

2011–12 Executive Committee

Dale Shearer '87
President-Elect

In 2010 Dale Shearer returned to the Association's volunteer leadership as vice president following a stint on the Alumni Association's board of directors from 2002 to 2005. A member of the Eagle Club and fan of any team wearing the black and gold, he is the son of Carolyn and Kenneth B. Shearer '60, who served as president of the Alumni Association in 1970-71.

As an alumnus, he has served as a member of the USM Foundation's board of directors, on the Alumni Association's Presidential Transition Team and as a delegate to the IHL Inter-Alumni Council. He and his wife, the former Janet Denise Saul '90 are members of the University of Southern Mississippi Foundation Honor Club.

Dale is a graduate of the University of Minnesota Law School and was admitted to the Mississippi Bar in 1991. He is a member of the law firm Copeland, Cook, Taylor & Bush, P.A. Dale represents individuals and legal entities in oil and gas, construction, insurance, software development, manufacturing, transportation and other industries doing business in Mississippi. In his community, he attends Pear Orchard Presbyterian Church with his family, and he has served on the board of directors for the City of Ridgeland Chamber of Commerce. He has also provided legal services to nonprofit religious and educational organizations, and consulted with local leadership of the Boy Scouts of America, undertaking high-adventure trips.

Dale resides in Ridgeland with wife Janet, daughter Mary Kate and son Sam.

Benny Waddle '82
Vice President

Hattiesburg resident Benny Waddle received a bachelor's degree in accounting from Southern Miss. A certified public accountant, he received his master's degree from the Louisiana State University Graduate School of Banking. Currently, Benny is senior vice president at Hancock Bank.

An active member of his community, Benny is a board member of the YMCA, D.R.E.A.M., the Kiwanis Club and the Greater Pine Belt Community Foundation. Previously, he was the finance chairman for Parkway Heights United Methodist Church, assistant scoutmaster for the Boy Scouts of America, and served on the board for the Salvation Army and Area Development Partnership.

Benny also devotes time to his alma mater, having served as a board member for the Eagle Club and USM Foundation. In 1997, the Alumni Association honored Benny with the Outstanding Service Award.

Benny is married to the former Pam Gillespie '83. The couple has two children, Amanda, a 2010-11 Pierce Legacy Scholar, and Benjamin.

Randy Pope '73
Past President

Moran M. "Randy" Pope III returned to the position of Alumni Association president for a second time in 2010-11.

Among other volunteer roles in support of The University of Southern Mississippi, the Life Member of the Alumni Association also served as the Association's President in 2000-01 and has served two three-year terms on the USM Foundation's board of directors. The dedicated alumnus is a past president of the USM Foundation and has served on the Athletic Foundation's board of directors. He is a member of the Alumni Hall of Fame and received the Association's Continuous Service Award in 2006.

Professionally, Randy is a partner in the law firm Pope & Pope, P.A., along with his father, Moran Pope Jr., a 1944 graduate of Mississippi Southern College. The Hattiesburg native is a 1978 graduate of the University of Mississippi School of Law, and was admitted to the Mississippi Bar in 1979. His practice is primarily in the areas of estate and probate law, real estate and school law. He has tried cases in both state and federal courts in Mississippi and has argued cases in the Mississippi Court of Appeals and the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

Randy is a member of a long line of Southern Miss graduates. His grandfather, Moran Pope Sr., and grandmother, Florence Burrow Pope, were members of the first class at Mississippi Normal College (MNC) and the first married couple to graduate from the institution that is now known as The University of Southern Mississippi. Randy's mother Yvonne '43 is a graduate of Mississippi Southern College, and his wife Kathy is a 1974 graduate of Southern Miss. Randy and Kathy have two daughters, Lucy Pope Schultze '01 and Valerie Pope Nicholson, and one grandson, Jacob Rhys Schultze, born June 15, 2010.

Donnie Tynes '75
Finance Committee Chairman

A Life Member of the Alumni Association, Donnie Tynes has been a dedicated Alumni Association volunteer, serving on the Finance Committee for multiple years, and previously held the title of Finance Committee Chairman in 2009-10. In 2010, this 1975 graduate of The University of Southern Mississippi was awarded the Continuous Outstanding Service Award by the Alumni Association.

Tynes is also a loyal member of the Eagle Club, serving as treasurer of the Jackson Eagle Club for more than two decades while maintaining memberships in the Hardwood Club, Wings, Dugout Club and Outfield Club.

He is a certified public accountant who has worked with Trustmark Bank since 1975 and is currently the bank's vice president and director of external reporting. Tynes resides in Madison with his wife Barbara Schuler Tynes to whom he's been married for 30 years. They have one son, Darren.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Kristie Fairley '96

Kristie Fairley is the deputy director for VISITHATTIESBURG, the official destination marketing organization for Hattiesburg's tourism industry. Kristie's duties include managing the company's brand, its marketing and sales activities, as well as managing the Hattiesburg Visitors Center. She came on board with VISITHATTIESBURG in 1996 after completing her studies at Southern Miss.

Kristie graduated *Magna Cum Laude* from Southern Miss' Honors College with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and an emphasis in marketing. After three additional years of study, she graduated with certification as a travel marketing professional from the Southeast Tourism Society Marketing College. With more than 14 years of marketing experience in the tourism industry, Kristie's passion for her career continues to grow year after year.

Of her career accomplishments, Kristie is most proud of her leadership role in the development of VISITHATTIESBURG's Hattie BrandPrint, implemented in 2003, and of her hand in creating thousands of positive first impressions for Hattiesburg through the hospitable guest experience delivered at the Visitors Center since 2004.

Currently, she serves on the boards of the Mississippi Tourism Association and the Mississippi Miss Hospitality Pageant, and is a member of Junior Auxiliary of Hattiesburg. In 2007, she was recognized as one of Mississippi's Top 40 Under 40. She, her husband Jay, and 19-month-old daughter Anne Makay live in Petal.

Wade Howk '03, '06

Howk began at Southern Miss in 2000 where he divided his time between the Gulf Park campus and the Hattiesburg campus for six years, earning his BSBA in management in 2003 and his BSBA in accounting in 2006.

After his time at Southern Miss, Howk went on to earn his CPA degree and an MBA.

Howk has worked in the casino industry on the Gulf Coast for more than 15 years and is currently the director of finance at Boomtown Casino in Biloxi. He is a member of the Biloxi Rotary Club as well as several professional organizations including AICPA, MSCPA, IIA and the Gulf Coast Chapter of MSCPA. He sits on the Corporate Board and the East Harrison County Unit Board for the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast. In addition, Howk is a member of the Biloxi Chamber of Commerce board, where he is the vice president of membership development, and he is also on the board for the Coast Young Professionals.

Howk is a graduate of Leadership Gulf Coast and remains an active participant in the program, currently serving as chair of Education Day. He is also a part of the 2011 class of Leadership Mississippi.

Howk and his wife Amy have been married for seven years and have two children, Carter and Grant. He is a Life Member of the Alumni Association.

Chris Inman '96

Chris Inman received a bachelor's degree from Southern Miss in 1996. While in college, he was a member of the Southern Miss Golf Team and Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

After graduating, Inman worked as a golf professional at the Hattiesburg Country Club and achieved membership status with the Professional Golfer's Association of America. In 1999, he entered into the investment industry and is currently employed with Morgan Stanley Smith Barney as a financial advisor and portfolio manager. Inman received the Certified Financial Planning Professional designation from the College of Financial Planning in 2005.

The Inman family are proud supporters of "The XLH Network," a nonprofit organization that seeks to educate and bring awareness to a rare

metabolic bone disorder, x-linked hypophosphatemic rickets (XLH).

Chris and his wife Joyce '99 live in Hattiesburg with their two daughters, Marah and Sanders, where they are members of First Baptist Church of Hattiesburg and Life Members of the Alumni Association.

T.J. McSparrin '82

T.J. McSparrin graduated from Southern Miss in 1982 with a degree in theatre. While at the University, she was an active member of Delta Delta Delta sorority, serving as historian and social chairman, was named Outstanding Freshman Woman in 1979, and was a basketball cheerleader for one year and a football cheerleader for two.

Upon graduation, McSparrin worked in theatre for two years before beginning her 22-plus-year nonprofit career in 1986 with the Foundation for Public Broadcasting. She has been employed with the American Cancer Society and the American Heart Association and served as president of the Arthritis Foundation, Mississippi Chapter, and as president and CEO of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Mississippi. In June 2006, she joined Big Brothers Big Sisters of Mississippi as the director of development and in March 2010, was named the executive director of the Clinton Chamber of Commerce.

McSparrin has been married to her husband Mike '82 for more than 28 years, and they reside in Clinton. The McSparrin's have two daughters, Kellis '10, and Cody, a 2011-12 Pierce Legacy Scholar.

Don Roberts '71

Major General Don Roberts is an assistant adjutant general in the Mississippi Air National Guard, also serving as commander. He is responsible to the adjutant general for directing Air National Guard operations and establishing policies to ensure mission readiness of an air refueling wing, airlift wing, combat readiness training center, air support operations squadron, air control squadron and civil engineering squadron. The general is also responsible for coordination, implementation and compliance with Air Force and National Guard Bureau policies within the state.

General Roberts entered the Mississippi Air National Guard in February 1968 with the 172nd Tactical Airlift Group. Before assuming his current assignment, General Roberts served as the chief of staff for the Mississippi Air National Guard Joint Force Headquarters in Jackson.

Among countless awards and decorations, he has been awarded the Legion of Merit, the Mississippi Magnolia Cross and the Mississippi Longevity Ribbon. General Roberts resides in Ridgeland.

David Saulters '90

Prior to graduating from Southern Miss in 1990, David Saulters was president of Kappa Sigma Fraternity, a member of Southern Style and president of the Student Athletic Board.

After college, Saulters worked in Hattiesburg for Sunburst Bank, Regions Bank and BancorpSouth before leaving banking in 1999 to start his own business. He and his wife Christa currently own and operate Sigma Companies and Sigma Realty, a small, yet comprehensive real estate firm.

Through Sigma Companies, Saulters is a certified professional builder and specializes in new construction and renovation of homes in Hattiesburg and Forrest and Lamar counties. Through Sigma Realty, he is a realtor and owns and manages rental properties.

David is a member of the Hattiesburg Area Association of Realtors and serves on the board of directors for the Greater Hattiesburg Home Builders Association, the Home Builders Association of Mississippi and the National Association of Home Builders.

David and Christa have seven children and are active members of Heritage United Methodist Church. He is a Life Member of the Alumni Association, a member of the President's Circle, an Eagle Club Member and a Roost spot holder.

Wanda Simpson '82

Wanda Simpson has resided in Hattiesburg since graduating from Southern Miss in 1982.

She has been employed with the Forest County Department of Human Services since 1984 and currently serves in the position of county director, a position she has held for more than seven years. In this role, she is responsible for the administration and supervision of the Supplemental Nutrition and Assistance Program (SNAP) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

This active member of the Alumni Association was a founding board member of the Greater Pinebelt Community Foundation (ADP Leaders Project) and served eight years on the Domestic Abuse Family Shelter Board. Currently, Wanda is an active member of Mt. Carmel Ministries, Hospitality Auxiliary and a Spirit of Women member.

Wanda is the proud mother of one daughter and the proud grandmother of three grandchildren.

Alumni Association Announces 2011 Legacy Scholars

Recruiting children and grandchildren of alumni is one of the Southern Miss Alumni Association's top objectives in the upcoming fiscal year. A piece of that initiative is to continue to award the Robert D. Pierce II Legacy Scholarship.

Established in 2003, and named in honor of former Alumni Association executive director Bob Pierce in 2008, the Robert D. Pierce II Legacy Scholarship helps perpetuate Southern Miss legacies by providing financial assistance to children and grandchildren of active Alumni Association members. Recipients are chosen by the Alumni Association's Scholarship Committee based on the criteria of academic excellence, community service and high school involvement. Candidates must be the children or grandchildren of an alumnus or alumna who is a Life Member of the Association or has been an active member of the organization for 10 or more consecutive years.

Proceeds from the Shell Finish Line Alumni Homecoming Golf Tournament are used to fund the one-time, $1,000 scholarships. This year's tournament will be held Oct. 21 at the Hattiesburg Country Club. To date, more than $100,000 has been raised through the tournament. For more information on the Shell Finish Line Alumni Homecoming Golf Tournament, call 601.266.5013.

The members of the 2011 Class of Robert D. Pierce II Legacy Scholars include Michael Ross Bedenbaugh, Elizabeth Margaret Crenshaw, James Adam McPhail, Cody Cameron McSparrin, James Mason Seidenburg, Lindsay Nicole Smilek and Anna Beth Waldron.

Michael Ross Bedenbaugh, a graduate of Presbyterian Christian High School, plans to major in Polymer Science. He was a member of the varsity football team where he was named team captain and placed on the second all-area team his senior year. In addition, he was a member of the Beta club and is involved locally with Habitat for Humanity. He has also taken part in mission work, traveling to Texas to assist a community in repairing damaged homes. Ross is the grandson of Life Member Barbara Ann Conner.

Elizabeth Margaret Crenshaw, a graduate of McGill-Toolen Catholic High School, plans to major in social work. She was on the Academic Honor Roll, involved with the National Honor Society and The Key Club and was a member of the varsity golf team. An advocate for community service, Elizabeth worked with organizations such as Habitat for Humanity and United Cerebral Palsy. In 2010, she received the Certificate of Appreciation Award from the city of Prichard, Ala. Elizabeth is the daughter of Alumni Association member Michael Crenshaw.

James Adam McPhail, a graduate of Oak Grove High School, plans to major in jazz studies. He was a member of the Beta Club and was named to the honor roll. Moreover, he was a member of the marching band and show choir. Adam worked with the Association for the Rights of Citizens with Developmental Disabilities and in April of 2011, organized a concert to benefit the wheelchair accessible playground in Hattiesburg's Kamper Park. Adam is the grandson of Alumni Association Lifetime Member James McPhail and the son of alumnus Brian McPhail.

Cody Cameron McSparrin, a graduate of Clinton High School, plans to major in nursing. She was a member of the National Honor Society, named to the honor roll, is a recipient of the President's Award and was student body secretary. In addition, she was also a member of Attache', the nine-time grand champion-winning show choir, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Passionate about children, Cody volunteered with organizations such as the Make-A-Wish Foundation and Big Brothers Big Sisters. She is a member of Morrison Heights Baptist Church and is the daughter of Alumni Association Life Members Michael and T.J. McSparrin.

James Mason Seidenburg, a graduate of West Jones High School, plans to major in accounting. This scholar athlete was named to the honor roll, Mississippi Association of Coaches All-State Tennis Team and the Mississippi Association of Coaches All-Star Soccer Team. Mason was involved in Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Beta Club, Bible Club and Key Club. A supporter of volunteerism, he collected items for the domestic abuse shelter, the Animal Rescue League and the Christian Food Mission, as well as participated in World Changers, a program that helped put new roofs on homes in Florida. Mason is the son of Alumni Association Life Members Doug and Rhonda Seidenburg.

Lindsay Nicole Smilek, a graduate of Biloxi High School, plans to major in business administration. She was named to the honor roll and was involved with the National Business Honor Society and Student Council. She was also a member of the track team, a cheerleader for four years and involved with Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Lindsay is active in her church youth group and participated in a medical mission trip to Belize to treat Kechi Indians. She also visited veterans at the local hospital and interned during city elections. Lindsay is the daughter of Alumni Association Life Member Christy Pickering.

Anna Beth Waldron, a graduate of Oak Grove High School, plans to major in education. She was the president of the National Art Honor Society, ran cross-country and track, was a member of the newspaper staff and was elected Most School Spirited. She is a member of Heritage United Methodist Church, where she participates in the youth band and assists with Vacation Bible School. Moreover, she is involved with the Angel Food Project and Edwards Street Vacation Bible School. Anna Beth is the daughter of Alumni Association member Eric Waldron.

Southern Miss Alumni Association Announces 2011 Peets Buffett Scholarship Winners

Gabrielle Bulger

Alexandria Gieger

The Southern Miss Alumni Association has announced that Gabrielle Alexandria Bulger of Magee and Alexandria Taylor Gieger of Laurel are the 2011 recipients of the Mary Loraine Peets Buffett Scholarship.

The scholarships, which are managed by the Alumni Association, are awarded to full-time female freshmen from the state of Mississippi demonstrating financial need with a minimum high school grade point average of 3.0. The $5,000 is for one academic year and may be renewed annually for up to four years provided that all requirements, including full-time status, enrollment in the College of Arts and Letters, and a 3.0 grade point average, are fulfilled.

Bulger, named to the Dean's List, is a second-year recipient of the scholarship and a music education student who excelled academically her freshman year. She recently decided to define her pursuit of a music degree by choosing the field of music education, specifically to help children.

For Bulger's mother, A'leece Kemp, the Peets Buffett Scholarship is a true blessing. "I really can't express how much this helps her with her studies," shared Kemp. "She was crying when she got the letter. She truly loves music, and without this financial help, it would be hard for her to follow that dream."

Not only has this scholarship helped Bulger financially, it has also given her the freedom to play an instrument in a production of *Sweeny Todd* this past summer. "I never imagined that I would receive this scholarship once, but twice is simply a mind-blowing concept," Bulger said. "Thanks to this scholarship I can take out a little less in student loans and am able to put a little time aside from work and do what I love to do -- perform with other great musicians and hopefully learn something that will help both me and my future students."

Gieger, a third-year recipient of the scholarship, is a music education major and made the President's List as a freshman and the Dean's List as a sophomore.

For Gieger, it is an unbelievable honor to be a recipient of this scholarship for a third time. "It is truly remarkable the connection I feel to a lady that I never had the privilege of meeting," shared Gieger. "Simply reading about Ms. Buffett inspired me so much in my senior year of high school, so to be receiving her scholarship for the past three years is something I hold dear to my heart. This abundant generosity is not only a tribute to the life of such an amazing lady, Ms. Buffett, but it is also something that I intend to pay forward in my life. I am so very thankful for this generous contribution to my education, and I feel blessed to have been given the opportunity to be a part of the Peets Buffett legacy."

Born in Crystal Springs, Mississippi, in 1921, Mary Loraine Peets Buffett was known simply as "Peets" to her family and friends. The mother of two daughters, Laurie and Lucy, and a son who is one of The University of Southern Mississippi's most prominent alumni, Jimmy Buffett, she is remembered for her infectious love of books, people and family.

A 1940 graduate of Gulf Park College for Women (now the Southern Miss Gulf Park Campus) in Long Beach, Peets' enthusiasm for education never ceased. Following her retirement from employment in 1979, Peets fulfilled her lifelong dream of obtaining a university degree at the age of 64.

Originally designated specifically for women from the Gulf Coast who enrolled at the Gulf Park campus, recent changes to the scholarship endowment parameters now allow students statewide who enroll in either campus to be eligible.

For more information on all scholarship opportunities offered through the Southern Miss Alumni Association, visit SouthernMissAlumni.com or call 601.266.5013.

Luckyday Scholars Program Announces Alumni Constituency Group

The University of Southern Mississippi's Luckyday Citizenship Scholars Program Foundation has added a new component to the servant leadership program – a Luckyday alumni group.

Dr. Larry Sparkman, director of Luckyday, has been working with the scholars since the program's inception in 2001 and is excited about the new dimensions to the program.

The Luckyday Alumni Constituency Group was created to foster and grow the Luckyday alumni's continued involvement with Southern Miss and the program.

The inaugural Luckyday Alumni Board will consist of 18 Luckyday Scholar alumni and will be led by President Jessica Lamb, '06, who is excited to extend the family to encompass post-graduate members. The Board will oversee the group, plan events, stay connected with current scholars, and participate in the 10-year anniversary of the Luckyday Scholars Program at Southern Miss this year.

For more information, contact the Luckyday office at 601.266.5981 or luckyday@usm.edu.

Parrothead Jersey Fundraiser Brings in $16,000

A unique fundraiser held this past spring brought in more than $16,000 to support a scholarship honoring the mother of one of The University of Southern Mississippi's most famous graduates and the school's baseball program.

Following the April 15 baseball game against the University of New Orleans, dubbed "Parrothead Night at the Pete," select jerseys worn by the Golden Eagle players and coaches in honor of Southern Miss alumnus Jimmy Buffett ('69) were shipped to the famed singer and author for his autograph.

The autographed jerseys were then returned for auction on eBay, and after several weeks of promotion, the eBay auction opened on May 16 and lasted for 10 days. The bids on several Buffett-autographed jerseys closed at more than $1,000, with the majority of the autographed team jerseys selling between $300 and $500. Other jerseys were distributed to the 2011 Golden Eagles baseball team.

Proceeds from the auction benefited the baseball support organization, the Dugout Club, and a scholarship fund in the name of Buffett's mother, Peets. Recently, the Association presented checks in the amount of $8,000 to the leadership of the USM Foundation for the scholarship and to the Dugout Club.

"The jersey auction exceeded our expectations," said Jerry DeFatta, executive director of the Alumni Association. "The auction generated approximately $16,000, and including the auction, limited-edition T-shirt sales and jersey raffle, the gross income for the initiative was more than $20,000."

Alumni Association Holds Big-Three Summer Parties

Head Football Coach Larry Fedoro poses with a team-signed Parrothead jersey, one of the many items auctioned off during the 2011 big-three summer parties.

The Alumni Association recently held their big-three summer parties throughout Mississippi. The parties, hosted by Central Mississippi, Gulf Coast Metro and South Central Mississippi chapters of the Association, offered opportunities for guests to visit with Southern Miss coaches, administrators, football players, cheerleaders and Seymour and listen to speeches given by President Martha Saunders and Director of Athletics Richard Giannini.

Southern Miss merchandise was available for purchase, and silent and live auctions were available to raise money for the chapters' respective scholarship funds for incoming students. Among other auction items, two tickets to the President's football suite were offered as well as team-signed Parrothead jerseys from the spring Parrothead Night at The Pete baseball game.

First, the Central Mississippi Alumni Chapter hosted the Jackson All-Star Party on July 15 at the Mississippi Trade Mart in Jackson. The event, which was sponsored by Cellular South and Kalalou, drew a huge crowd, and fans were able to visit with football players, coaches and University officials.

Southern Miss alumni and fans had the opportunity to visit with Golden Eagle football players at events this summer.

Second, the Gulf Coast Metro Alumni Chapter hosted the Gulf Coast Beach Bash on July 23 at Mugshots Bar and Grill in Biloxi. In addition to coaches and players being on site, Congressman Steven Palazzo '94, '96 and wife Lisa '94 were present, dressed in black and gold and mingling with fans and alumni.

Finally, the South Central Mississippi Alumni Chapter hosted Eagle Fanfare on August 6 at the Payne Center on the Hattiesburg campus. This event which was sponsored by ServiceMaster of Petal, has brought in near-record crowds for the past several years.

Former Association President Mixon Dies

Golden Eagle Bob Mixon '69 passed away on June 18, 2011.

Mixon was a faithful supporter of the Hattiesburg community and served many roles at Southern Miss. A former Southern Miss Alumni Association president, he was also a Lifetime Member of the Association and a member of the USM Foundation Honor Club.

Moreover, Mixon was an avid Southern Miss sports fan and was involved with the USM Athletic Foundation Circle of Champions and a past president of the Eagle Club, which supports student-athletes at Southern Miss.

Mixon enlisted in the Mississippi National Guard in 1963 and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1965. He served for 14 years, while receiving his bachelor's degree from Southern Miss in political science.

A well-known businessman in the community, Mixon was the CEO of several Hattiesburg businesses including Courtesy Ford and Centennial Management Investment. Mixon is survived by his wife, Judith, and his four children and 11 grandchildren.

Golden Grad Reunion Date Set for 2012

Newly inducted members of the Golden Circle pose on the steps of the Ogletree House at the 2011 Golden Grad Reunion.

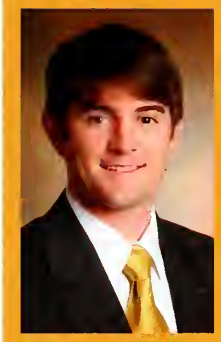
The 2011 Golden Grad Reunion was held May 6-7. During this weekend, the Southern Miss Alumni Association welcomed alumni from the class of 1961 and earlier to the Hattiesburg campus.

The weekend consisted of a full schedule of events, including a special reception for the class of 1961, a Friday evening dinner, Saturday morning breakfast with a guest speaker, tours of the University's newest additions, and a luncheon featuring the Spirit of Southern vocal performance group and the induction into the Golden Circle.

The dates for the 2012 Golden Grad Reunion have been announced and the class of 1962 will be honored May 4-5, 2012. Additional reunion details, including hotel information, will be available as the date approaches at SouthernMissAlumni.com, and registration brochures will be mailed to all eligible alumni in early 2012. Contact Dawn Smith at 601.266.4218 or dawn.smith@usm.edu for more details.

Legacy member, Rachel Portin, presents Golden Grad attendee, Ina McCrimman Carlton, '61, her medallion during the Golden Circle induction at the 2011 Golden Grad Reunion.

Alumni Association Names Reiter Associate Director for Internal Operations



Dane Reiter

Dane Reiter '06, '07, '10 has been selected as The University of Southern Mississippi Alumni Association's associate director for internal operations. Reiter's responsibilities include oversight of the accounting, database management, human resources and office management functions of the Association. He also manages a staff professional in the area of database and information systems and three support positions.

A Petal native, Reiter has earned three degrees from Southern Miss. Prior to this role, Reiter was employed with the Association as the manager of constituent relations where he served a dual role for the Association as the primary field representative and as adviser for The Legacy, the student Alumni Association.

Preceding his time at the Association, Reiter was employed with the Business Services department on the Hattiesburg campus of Southern Miss as a business analyst where he, among other things, served as a liaison between the functional and technical areas of the department and implemented and integrated a new University-wide student refund process.

Welcome New Life Members

Erin Dornan
Thomas and Lorie Kellogg
Jennifer Watts
Richard and Mo Conville
Kelly Tribble Files
Paul and Charlett Hollomon
Margaret Mitchell
Andrew Maher
William Robert Nettles
Timothy and Steffany Hudson
Kristie Pierce Roberts
James Knight
Odean and Glinda Busby
Virginia Kyle
Suzette Bienvenue Duhe
Adrianne Linton
Cassandra Stovall
Barry Parker
Floyd Hughes
Brett and Valerie McAlpin
Todd and Cheryl Dean
James Locke
Ryan and Ashley Wilson
Artis Simmons Butler
Elizabeth Ann Folse
Carol Manning
Michael Wayne Crenshaw
Kirk James Blanchard
Charles Graves
Robert and Marsha Hester
Mary Bumpus
Edith Shoemake White
Elisabeth Ruth Jonas
Scott and Sharon Speights
Jean Rawls Abney
Alfred and Deborah Cofrancesco
Stefan and Sheree Massong
Mary Ellen Leo
James Ray Burr
Myra Hammon
Thomas William Hickman
Doug and Sandy McQueen
Howard Jerome Pace
James Fenton
Neil Edward Vandevoorde
Joseph Stephen Schlautman
James Adam Farris
Stephen Thomas Bonner
Alex and Jennifer Radka
Shailaja Vaidya
Terri Popiano
Kathryn Lee Slonaker
Thomas Pearson, Jr.
Zachary Lee Berry
Chuck Carr Brown
Thomas Peebles
John Kramer
Malachi Jerome Henry
Leonard Wayne Smith
Jason and Jennifer Skrmetti
Matthew and Audie Scipper
Melanie Morgan
Carmel Ruiz
Tony Poggi
Kala Smith
Carrie Byrd
Melton and Kathy King
John McMahan
Bertha Echols
Laurie Benvenutti

Lady Patty Offers Sail Charters to Alumni Visiting Annapolis for Navy Game

Captain Jeffrey Mathias grew up a Golden Eagle. When his mother B.J., a graduate of Southern Miss, and his father Lon, a professor at the University, first heard the news of the upcoming football game against Navy on Oct. 8 in Annapolis, the family immediately reached out to the Alumni Association to communicate information about their family charter business to alumni traveling to the area.

Captain Jeff began his professional maritime career in 1997 as first mate aboard *Lady Patty*. For three years he helped maintain and operate the vessel. He has worked professionally as captain of crew, survey and utility boats as well as hovercrafts and airboats. Captain Jeff possesses a U.S.C.G. 100-Ton Master License and a long-time love of sailing and maintaining the yacht, *Lady Patty*.

Lady Patty will be offering two early day trips on Saturday, Oct. 8 in the Annapolis harbor prior to the Southern Miss football game against Navy. For sale aboard the boat will be a variety of concessions, including their specialty, fresh-squeezed limejuice margaritas. A shuttle from the waterfront to the game and catered food for the sail is also available upon request.

For rates and more information visit ladypatty.com or contact Captain Jeffrey Mathias at 1.888.250.3030 or by email at reservations@ladypatty.com.

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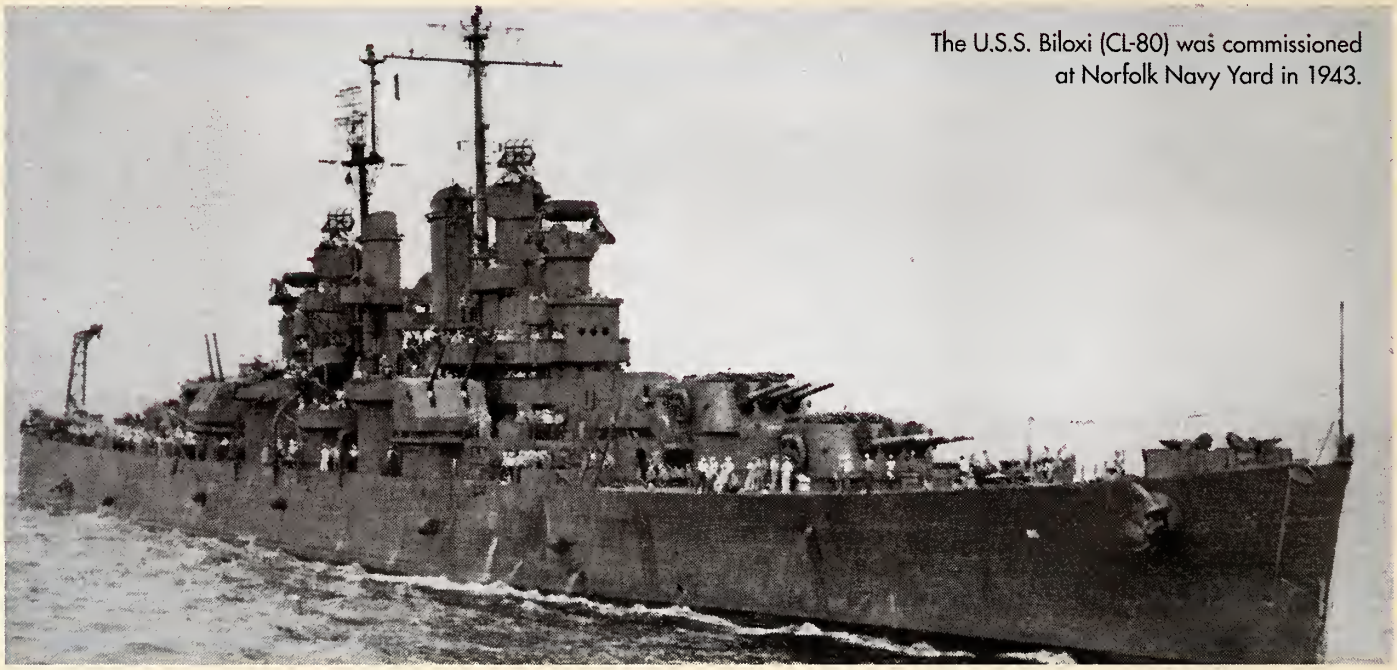
To schedule a tour and make a reservation,
contact Event Services at 601.266.4399 or visit www.usm.edu/union/reservations.php.



The U.S.S. Biloxi (CL-80) was commissioned at Norfolk Navy Yard in 1943.

U.S.S. Biloxi Reunions Benefit Scholarship Fund

Veterans of the U.S.S. Biloxi not only valiantly impacted our nation's history during World War II but also established an admirable legacy through their contribution to the U.S.S. Biloxi (CL-80) Endowed Scholarship Fund at The University of Southern Mississippi Foundation.

The U.S.S. Biloxi (CL-80), the only United States Navy ship named for a Mississippi city, was present during every major military operation in the Pacific during World War II and was awarded nine battle stars for her service. Despite being constantly placed in harm's way, the ship made it through the war without losing a single man. The U.S.S. Biloxi was dubbed "The Busy Bee" and "The Double Lucky" by its crew, who still meet yearly to celebrate the ship's victories.

The U.S.S. Biloxi's 2010 Reunion took place in St. Augustine, Fla., and featured food, fun, music and many memories shared by the crew. One shipmate even wore his dress uniform to the annual banquet—a feat most of the ship's veterans are unable to perform.

A highlight of the evening occurred when the shipmates voted to add $3,820 to the U.S.S. Biloxi (CL-80) Endowed Scholarship Fund. The fund, which was established to honor all who served on the U.S.S. Biloxi, awards an annual scholarship of $1,000 to a Biloxi High School senior who will attend Southern Miss. In addition, the fund awards a second scholarship of $1,000 to each recipient, provided he or she satisfactorily completes the academic requirements of his of her freshman year and remains enrolled for his or her sophomore year at the University.

Shenique Russ, a senior at Southern Miss and a U.S.S. Biloxi scholarship recipient, recounts the lessons she learned from receiving the scholarship.

"I now know that closed doors are only an opportunity to open a window to new frontiers I had never thought possible," says Russ. "I learned the importance of being persistent and never quitting because one never knows what will happen. The potential for great things is endless. Receiving the U.S.S. Biloxi Scholarship validated these beliefs and enabled me to become the person I am today."

The balance of the fund following the generous gift reached $106,750, enabling three scholarships to be offered—two to current Southern Miss students and one to a new student. The shipmates collect donations yearly and plan to continue supporting the scholarship for students at Southern Miss.

"This scholarship had its origin in the spirit of the crew of the U.S.S. Biloxi," said Captain Alfred R. Olsen, one of the shipmates of the U.S.S. Biloxi. "The ship was commissioned in 1943 in Norfolk, Va. She was largely manned by young men from the Southern United States. She was a fighting ship, with a proud sense of camaraderie and a generous heart. Long after the war has become a distant memory, the spirit of the U.S.S. Biloxi and her crew still live on in the scholarship that bears her name."

The most recent reunion, which took place in May in Norfolk, Va., featured multiple days of fellowship that included tours of the National Maritime Center, the U.S.S. Wisconsin and the Norfolk Naval Station, and the transfer of the U.S.S. Biloxi (CL-80) model to the U.S. Naval Academy Museum.

For more information about the U.S.S. Biloxi (CL-80) Endowed Scholarship Fund or how to contribute, contact the USM Foundation at 601.266.5210 or visit www.usmfoundation.com.

Gifts to Queen of Mystic Krewe of Zeus Benefit Memorial Scholarship Endowment

King Worren A Hood Jr. and Queen Annie Lourie Roberts

In the summer of 2010, Annie Laurie Roberts, granddaughter of Southern Miss Alumni Hall of Fame member H. David "Doc" Roberts and his wife Carolyn, learned she had been selected queen of the Mystic Krewe of Zeus for 2011. Chosen by a committee of former kings and queens, Roberts, along with King Warren A. Hood Jr., was honored at several festivities during the carnival season.

As per tradition, the king and queen of Zeus receive gifts from their court and the public which benefit a charity of the royals' choice. Roberts selected the Savannah Anne Smith Memorial Scholarship Endowment at The University of Southern Mississippi Foundation as the beneficiary of her gifts during the Mardi Gras festivities.

"I considered Savannah a good friend of mine through church and school, and I have many memories of the great times Savannah and I shared together," said Roberts. "When she passed away, another close friend of Savannah's, Tate Rutland, and I decided we wanted to start a scholarship fund at The University of Southern Mississippi in her honor. When I learned I was able to pick a charity for being queen of Zeus, my first thought was that this could be a great way to fund Savannah's scholarship."

The Savannah Anne Smith Memorial Scholarship Endowment received more than $16,000 from Roberts' contributors and now has a corpus balance in excess of $23,500. Smith was a student at Southern Miss when she died in September 2009. The endowment established in her memory provides a scholarship for a single mother who is a student at Southern Miss.

"Savannah was a very smart girl, and she knew the value of an education. I hope the recipient of this scholarship values her education as much as Savannah did," said Roberts.

For more information about the Savannah Anne Smith Memorial Scholarship Endowment, contact the USM Foundation at 601.266.5210 or visit www.usmfoundation.com.

GOLDEN EAGLE IMPACT

DR. FRANCES LUCAS, vice president for Southern Miss Gulf Coast operations, provided a gift commitment of $15,000 to provide scholarships for students enrolled on the Gulf Coast campus.

A gift commitment from VALERIE SIMMONS, professor in the School of Accountancy at Southern Miss, in the amount of $10,000 to the Building Better Business Campaign will support the construction of a new building for the College of Business.

The SERTOMA CLUB OF HATTIESBURG made a gift of $19,000 to support the DuBard School for Language Disorders in serving children with severe language/speech disorders and/or hearing impairments and providing guidance and counseling for parents and families of the children.

MARY and DEAN CROMARTIE of Hattiesburg, Miss., provided a gift commitment of $10,000 to the Building Better Business Campaign to support the construction of a new building for the College of Business.

DR. MAUREEN MARTIN, director of the DuBard School for Language Disorders, made a gift commitment of $10,000 to ensure the operations of the DuBard School now and in the future.

SHANE and MONA LOPER of Ocean Springs, Miss., made a gift to support the Building Better Business Campaign at the Associate Level.

KENNETH LOTT of Purvis, Miss., provided a gift commitment of $10,000 to support the College of Business Building Better Business Campaign.

A gift commitment from CHARLES HOUSER of Magnolia Springs, Ala., in the amount of $25,000 will support the new College of Business building.

Tasha Tudor Collection Finds New Home in de Grummond Collection at Southern Miss

Ellen Ruffin, curator of the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection, shows pieces from the Tasha Tudor collection to a group of librarians from across the nation who visited the de Grummond Collection during the annual American Library Association Conference in New Orleans in June.

Thanks to a generous grant from the C. E. and S. Foundation and an in-kind gift from John and Jill Hare, trustees of the Stratford 1910 Trust, works from the *Tasha Tudor Bibliography Collection* by 20th century American illustrator Tasha Tudor are now a part of the de Grummond Children's Literature Collection at The University of Southern Mississippi.

John Hare, creator of the *Tasha Tudor Bibliography Collection*, spent 25 years assembling books, illustrations, photographs and manuscripts that encompass Tudor's contribution to the genre of children's literature. The collection now contains more than 1,500 books and 1,500 other items exhibiting Tudor's art and writings. Tudor's works include such internationally known titles as "Mother Goose" and "1 is One," both of which hold Caldecott honors.

The definitive bibliography of Tudor's work is *Tasha Tudor: The Direction of Her Dreams* by William John Hare and Priscilla T. Hare, Oak Knoll Books (1998). This manuscript and supporting materials form a significant part of the collection contributed to the de Grummond Collection. Tudor's first manuscript, *Hitty's Almanac,* is the high point of the collection. When she was 19 years old, Tudor created the tiny 70-page manuscript, fully illustrated in color. It reports events and themes that the New England artist continued to investigate throughout her life. *Hitty's Almanac* remains unpublished and has been exhibited to the public only once.

Born in Boston in 1915, Tudor illustrated nearly 100 books in her lifetime and received many awards and honors, including Caldecott honors and the Regina Medal. Her books exhibit plain, charming and frequently rhyming text with intricate, realistic drawings with light colors. Tudor's multi-faceted life and work were the subject of a six-month retrospective exhibition at the Rockefeller Museum in Colonial Williamsburg, Va., in 1997. Her influences came directly from the New England countryside, where she lived until her death in 2008. Her books have been published in several languages,

An original page from *Hitty's Almonac*, an unpublished manuscript by Tasha Tudor, written when she was 19 years old.

including Afrikaans, and in the last decade have become especially popular in Japan.

Tudor's first book, *Pumpkin Moonshine*, was published in 1938. It is a story of her own creation and design about a four-year-old niece whose adventures creating a large jack-o-lantern cause a sensation on her farm. Tudor produced more than a book a year for the rest of her life. She illustrated well-known poems and fairy tales, as well as *Little Women*, *The Secret Garden* and *A Little Princess*. Her most creative work was *Corgiville Fair* (1971), a tale of intrigue and pride featuring Tudor's beloved corgi dogs.

The C. E. and S. Foundation, a private family foundation located in Louisville, Ky., provided financial support to the USM Foundation to assist in obtaining the collection from its former owner, the Stratford 1910 Trust. The C. E. and S. Foundation identifies funds and nurtures projects and organizations in the fields of higher education, international cooperation and improvements to the urban environment that meaningfully enhance the living conditions or prospects of identifiable people. The foundation is also dedicated to fostering philanthropic spirit and nonprofit management expertise.

"Without the interest and support of the C. E. and S. Foundation and in-kind contribution from Mr. and Mrs. Hare, this wonderful collection could not have come to Southern Miss," said Dr. Carole Kiehl, dean of University Libraries at Southern Miss. "The extensive collection has singular significance and value to the study of Tasha Tudor in particular and to children's literature studies in general. We're absolutely thrilled to add it to the de Grummond Collection."

Bruce Maza, executive director of the C. E. and S. Foundation, believes the de Grummond Collection, as one of the nation's premier centers for the study of children's literature, is uniquely capable of the stewardship of this resource.

"We trust that de Grummond will encourage future generations of scholars of children's literature to draw from the Hare collection's rich insights into Tasha Tudor's remarkable creativity—in her art and in her life," said Maza.

The de Grummond Children's Literature Collection is one of North America's leading research centers in the field of children's literature. The collection holds the original manuscripts and illustrations of more than 1,300 authors and illustrators, as well as more than 160,000 published books dating from 1530 to the present. Part of the University Libraries' Special Collections, the de Grummond Collection is housed in the McCain Library and Archives on the Hattiesburg campus of The University of Southern Mississippi.

For more information on financially supporting the de Grummond Collection or how to contribute to future acquisitions, contact the USM Foundation at 601.266.5210 or visit www.usmfoundation.com.

USM Foundation Revitalizes Honor Club

The USM Foundation proudly announces the revitalization of its Honor Club.

Established in 1985, the USM Foundation Honor Club was created as the major gift recognition society to honor those donors whose vision and passion for Southern Miss inspired them to support the University with significant financial gifts. Honor Club members have long been celebrated for their loyalty to Southern Miss, and the Foundation now has a new focus on the importance of this vital group.

"There is no more important constituency to the University than our Honor Club donors," said Bob Pierce, vice president for university advancement and executive director of the USM Foundation. "These individuals and organizations have made a significant financial investment in the future of the institution, and they deserve to be recognized in a substantial way."

Honor Club membership is achieved when a donor reaches $10,000 or more in cumulative charitable contributions to the USM Foundation. The Honor Club consists of the following eight giving levels:

- Associates for Excellence ($10,000 – $24,999)
- Patrons of 1910 ($25,000 – $49,999)
- Joseph Cook Fellowship ($50,000 – $99,999)
- President's Circle ($100,000 – $249,999)
- Black and Gold Society ($250,000 – $499,999)
- Southern Miss Society ($500,000 – $999,999)
- Gallery of Benefactors ($1 million and above)
- Circle of Champions ($100,000 and above to Southern Miss Athletics)

HONOR CLUB
USM FOUNDATION

The more than 1,400 Honor Club members will soon be receiving a new membership packet in the mail. Members enjoy benefits such as invitations to attend the President's Countdown to Kickoff prior to every home football game each fall and parking decals for the Southern Miss Hattiesburg campus. The Foundation staff and leadership also look forward to bringing back the Honor Club Gala, a black-tie event held each spring. Plans are already being made for this year's gala to be held on March 23, 2012, at the Beau Rivage Resort and Casino in Biloxi. For more information on the USM Foundation Honor Club, please contact Meg Jones, coordinator of donor relations and special events, by phone at 601.266.6292 or via e-mail at meg.jones@usm.edu.

Foundation Schedules Reduction in Endowment Funds Administrative Fee

The USM Foundation has initiated a plan to reduce the administrative fee charged annually for endowment funds held by the organization.

"We felt the administrative fee needed to be more in line with the national average," said Jennifer Boucher, chief financial officer for the Foundation. "By reducing the administrative fee, more earnings remain with the individual funds to support their intended purpose."

In 1993, the USM Foundation Board of Directors adopted the use of an administrative fee as a means to generate income to fund the operations of the Foundation. While this method of funding the Foundation's operations has been vital and appropriate, the growth of the Foundation's endowment over the years has created the opportunity to reduce the annual administrative fee on endowment funds from two percent to 1.75 percent. This reduction in administrative fees, which was approved by the Board of Directors during the June 2011 meeting, will be effective beginning calendar year 2012.

"We are excited about this opportunity to reduce the administrative fee on our endowed funds," said Bob Pierce, vice president for university advancement and executive director of the Foundation. "While many university foundations are increasing their fees, the USM Foundation is lowering its fees. I believe we are excellent stewards of our donors' contributions, and I trust this decision is further evidence of our desire to maximize the impact of every dollar given to us."

The USM Foundation currently holds more than 680 endowment funds and as of June 30, 2011, the market value of the Foundation's endowment stood at almost $63 million.

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Gifts to the Annual Fund can also be made by calling 601.266.6100.

AA/EOE/ADA/UC 64256.5210 3.11

Q & A with Assistant Dean of Students for Greek Life Josh Schutts

Assistant Dean of Students for Greek Life Josh Schutts believes the University's fraternities and sororities offer invaluable opportunities for leadership and scholarly development, in addition to the chance to make friends that last a lifetime. Recently, Schutts took a few moments to reflect on his job responsibilities in a question-and-answer format.

Q Give a brief profile of the Southern Miss Greek Life system and its membership.

A Greek Life at Southern Miss began in 1935. We currently recognize 23 fraternities and sororities governed by three student boards, and 18 of our organizations have University-owned chapter facilities on the western edge of campus. Every one of these groups is a chapter of a larger national or international entity. This means our students have fraternity brothers and sorority sisters across the country. Our collegians represent roughly 14 percent of the full-time, Hattiesburg-campus undergraduate student population.

Q When you are trying to sell membership in a Greek Life organization on campus, what's your pitch?

A I'll make it easy: Do you like having friends? Would you like to have more "best friends" than acquaintances? How about mentoring, networking and some character and leadership development to help you become a more successful scholar, citizen and future graduate? Lastly, would you like college to be a fun time? If you answer "yes" to any of these, you should explore joining a fraternity or sorority because they offer just that – and so much more.

Q What do you see for the future of the Greek Life system at Southern Miss and for fraternities and sororities everywhere?

A There is tremendous room for growth. Our sororities are operating at some of the best levels in their history with a positive outlook to the future. Now is the time to invest, or reinvest, in Greek Life at Southern Miss. If you're an alumnus, contact our office and find out how you can help. If you're a parent or prospective student, consider the possibilities that are open for you or your student within a fraternity or sorority. If you still have doubts, take some time and monitor our progress. If you're a Golden Eagle in any way, shape or form, know that Greek Life provides true enrichment to our campus, our students and our community.

Sigma Chi Raises More Than $7,000 for Children's Miracle Network

During the 2010-11 school year, the Theta Delta Chapter of Sigma Chi Fraternity held their annual Derby Days philanthropy week, which supports the Children's Miracle Network.

Many activities took place throughout the week for members of Southern Miss Greek Life to get involved. Among other events, there was a sorority dance contest, karaoke night, scavenger hunt and volleyball tournament. Each year the fraternity names their Derby Darling, and this year Amber Langley of Delta Gamma was given this honor.

The week wrapped up with a benefit concert where the winning sorority, Delta Delta Delta, was announced and the fraternity, accompanied by other members of Greek Life, traveled to Blair E. Batson Children's Hospital in Jackson for a tour of the facility.

The Theta Delta chapter raised more than $7,200 for Children's Miracle Network and plans to continue this tradition for years to come.

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National Launch for MasterChef Whitney Miller's Cookbook

Whitney Miller, a University of Southern Mississippi alumna from Paplarville and winner of the first MasterChef title from season one of the Fox television shaw, autagraphs capies of her new cookbook, "Modern Haspitality," July 5, at A Gallery in dawntown Hattiesburg.

Whitney Miller, a College of Arts and Letters graduate of the Interdisciplinary Studies program and winner of the first MasterChef title from season one of the Fox television show, saw a dream come true July 5, with the national launch of her new cookbook "Modern Hospitality: Simple Recipes with Southern Charm."

Miller was in Hattiesburg signing copies of the book at A Gallery, located in downtown Hattiesburg. A national cookbook launch party was held that evening at the Hattiesburg Train Depot, where visitors were able to sample recipes from the cookbook and watch Miller's guest appearance on season two of the show.

Featuring a wide variety of tested recipes, the cookbook has taken several months to put together, and Miller has been excited at the prospect of its introduction to the public. It includes a forward from Gordon Ramsay, *MasterChef* main judge. "It's definitely been a dream of mine to have this opportunity, and to already be on my career path at such a young age is a real blessing," said Miller, a Poplarville, Miss., native.

After posting photos of the book's culinary delights on Facebook and Twitter, Miller said she's received multiple requests from friends for the recipes. "I never shared them," Miller laughed. "I would say, 'Wait until the book comes out.'"

A Gallery partnered with the city of Hattiesburg and Visit Hattiesburg in sponsoring the event. "We're not only honored to have had Whitney sign her book at the store but also to have been asked to host the launch party," said Gail Albert, owner of A Gallery. Albert said she first came to know Whitney when she was a little girl coming to visit downtown Hattiesburg for the Art Walk with her family, and what impressed her most when watching Miller win the title last year was how she never lost her focus. "It's been so neat to watch her grow up and become such a tremendous success in what she's passionate about doing," Albert said.

The Interdisciplinary Studies program at Southern Miss allows students to create their own degree with multiple disciplinary specialties in preparation for careers in a world where complex issues demand multi-faceted knowledge and skills. For more information on the Interdisciplinary Studies program, visit usm.edu/bis.

"Festa Fraschillo" to Honor Retired Southern Miss Music Professor

Alumni, colleagues and friends of Dr. Tom Fraschillo are invited to The University of Southern Mississippi Hattiesburg campus April 27-28, 2012 to honor the recently retired School of Music professor, considered among the top music educators and band conductors in the world.

"Festa Fraschillo" will begin Friday, April 27 with a banquet in the Touchdown Club at M. M. Roberts Stadium at 7 p.m., with check-in and mixer at 6 p.m., followed the next day by a rehearsal of the alumni band, a concert and after-party again at the Touchdown Club. Several commemorative efforts are also being planned, including a CD of his greatest musical moments with the wind ensemble.

Organizers of the event are motivated to honor Fraschillo for his long tenure at his alma mater, the thousands of students he has recruited to the University and his prominence in the field of music education and wind band areas around the world.

Dr. Tom Fraschillo

Dr. Steve Moser, interim dean of the College of Arts and Letters and a professor of music, says his colleague has undeniable "star status" in the band world.

Fraschillo first came to Southern Miss as a freshman in the fall of 1964 after his band director at Clarksdale High School, Southern Miss alumnus Kent Sills, recognized his potential and encouraged him to consider studying at his alma mater.

After graduating from Southern Miss with bachelor and master's degrees, he became director of instructional music and bands at Meridian High School. During his tenure there, Meridian secured an invitation to the prestigious Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago, the oldest and most prestigious of its kind in the world.

Following his stint at Meridian High, Fraschillo returned to Southern Miss after securing a doctorate in musical arts from the University of South Carolina. At Southern Miss his primary duty has been leader of the band department and conductor of the University's concert band, the Wind Ensemble. He has also taught piano, percussion and 20th Century Music.

Among his many honors include election to membership in the prestigious American Bandmasters Association (ABA) and later as its president, the only Mississippian to ever hold that post. His scholarly work earned him the position of contributing editor for the *Groves Dictionary of Music and Musicians, American Edition*, published by Oxford University Press.

Fraschillo has also served as president of the National Band Association, the largest organization for band directors in America, and has been the recipient of numerous honors and appointments in Italy, the United Kingdom, Australia, Singapore, and Hong Kong. "My work internationally, I would like to think, has brought much recognition to Southern Miss in places where the University would have never been known," he said. He plans to stay active in music, and is scheduled to participate in concert events in the U.S., Europe and Asia in 2012 and 2013.

But he counts with more pride than any personal honor his many former students who dot the directory of high school and college band directors and music educators across the country and around the globe. "The most important legacy I can leave is the success of my students," he said.

Brad Snow, director of bands at the University of Missouri and one of Fraschillo's former students, readily testifies that his mentor is indeed student-oriented and a humble, devoted family man who eschews self-promotion.

Beginning in January, registration for the weekend of events honoring Fraschillo will be available online at the Southern Miss School of Music's website usm.edu/music/festa-fraschillo. A limited number of spaces will be available. For more information, contact Dr. Mike Lopinto at 601.266.5620.

Secret Admirers

An excerpt from the book *Treasured Past. Golden Future: The University of Southern Mississippi, 1910-2010* by Southern Miss Alumnus Dr. Chester "Bo" Morgan

Sometime in the fall of 2005, Vice-President for Student Affairs Joe Paul received a mysterious letter requesting that he look underneath a water fountain on the seventh floor of a building honoring someone with seven letters in his last name. He compliantly went to the proper location in the Johnson Science Tower, where he found a check designated for a "deserving student affected by Hurricane Katrina."

Equally mysterious was the appearance in November of a large decorative stone on the lawn of Danforth Chapel. The rock bore an emblem with a leaf surrounded by seven stars and the date 1877. Believing it to be a fraternity prank, Union and Programs Director Barbara Ross conducted a little detective work and discovered the existence of an organization calling itself The Gold Leaf. "A group of individuals," according to one of the society's letters, "has taken an oath to commit itself to the betterment of The University of Southern Mississippi."

Other individuals and groups on campus also began to receive correspondence from The Gold Leaf, often accompanied by a check, usually for $777.77. Apparently, the significance of the number seven derived from the 227 students and 17 faculty members present at the school's opening on September 18, 1912. The date 1877 possibly reflected

This marker just south of The Hub is evidence of The Gold Leaf's presence on campus.

1877

the origin of the Mississippi Teachers Association, which played such a crucial role in the institution's founding.

Another of the society's letters stated, "Our mission is being accomplished through the making of financial and other gifts to individuals associated with the University whom we believe bring honor to the University through their work and lives. Membership in the Gold Leaf is and will always remain anonymous so that the focus of the gift will be on the recipient."

A separate but apparently companion organization, The Society of 1910, also emerged. "As students past and present," said one of its statements, "we are driven by our overriding founding principle; to work in all things for the betterment of The University of Southern Mississippi."

Ross suggested that it would be fitting for the first named meeting room in the Cochran Center to be The Gold Leaf Room, and on July 7, 2007 (07-07-07), she received a check (the first of seven totaling the $25,000 required for the naming opportunity), designated, of course, for room 227.

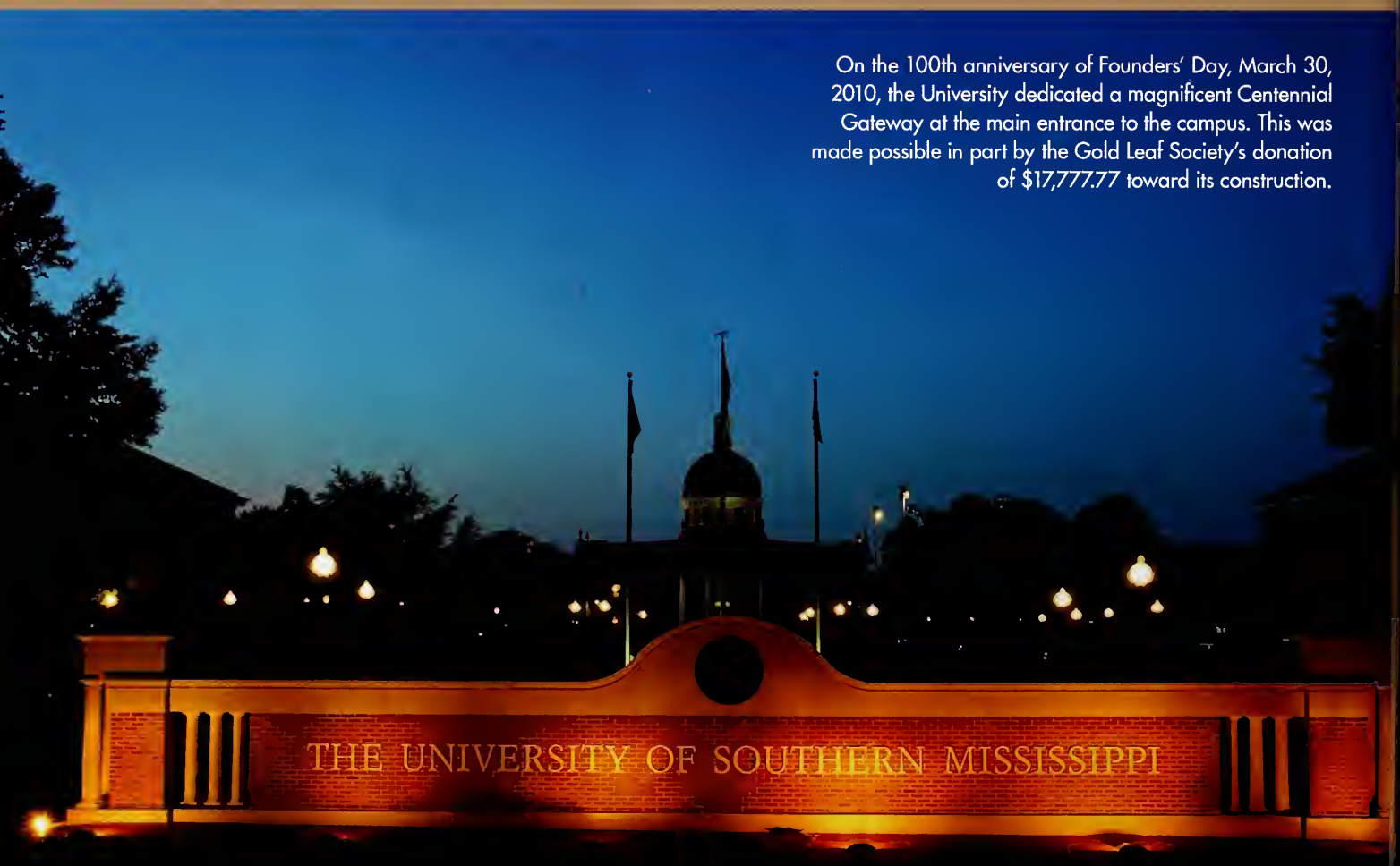
On the 100th anniversary of Founder's Day, March 30, 2010, the University dedicated a magnificent Centennial Gateway at the main entrance to the campus. That stately monument to the institution's first one hundred years was made possible in part by the Gold Leaf Society's donation of $17,777.77 toward its construction.

Later that year, fall commencement ceremonies included the unveiling of a portrait of the five original campus buildings specially commissioned by the Society of 1910. Donated to the University, it remains on display in the Aubrey K. Lucas Administration Building.

SOCIETY OF 1910

Esse Quam Videri

"AS STUDENTS PAST AND PRESENT, WE ARE DRIVEN BY OUR OVERRIDING FOUNDING PRINCIPLE; TO WORK IN ALL THINGS FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI."



On the 100th anniversary of Founders' Day, March 30, 2010, the University dedicated a magnificent Centennial Gateway at the main entrance to the campus. This was made possible in part by the Gold Leaf Society's donation of $17,777.77 toward its construction.

1910
SOUTHERN MISS
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION
TO THE TOP!
The Southern Miss Alumni Association is proud to announce that the Hattiesburg Country Club is the official country club of the Alumni Association.
SOUTHERN MISS ALUMNI
FINISH LINE
HOMECOMING SCHOLARSHIP
Golf Tournament
Presented by
Coca-Cola
Make plans to attend the 2011 Shell Finish Line/ Southern Miss Alumni Homecoming Golf Tournament, which will be held at the Hattiesburg Country Club Friday, October 21, beginning at 8:30 a.m.
Proceeds from the event support the Association's Robert D. Pierce II Legacy Scholarship, named in honor of former Alumni Association Executive Director Bob Pierce, from which the organization awards scholarships to select children and grandchildren of Southern Miss alumni.
For more information or to reserve your spot in this year's event, please call the Southern Miss Alumni Association at 601.266.5013.
HATTIESBURG
Country Club
The official country club of the Southern Miss Alumni Association

SCIANNA INVESTS $5 MILLION TO BUILD BETTER BUSINESS

By Amy Martin '06

With a gift commitment of $5 million to The University of Southern Mississippi Foundation, Southern Miss alumnus Charles "Chuck" C. Scianna, Jr. is making an investment in the future of education by providing the gift that will also name the proposed College of Business building Scianna Hall.

The commitment is the largest one-time gift to the USM Foundation by a Southern Miss alumnus.

"We are touched and deeply grateful for this amazing gift," said Dr. Martha Saunders, University president. "Chuck Scianna is a wonderful role model for our students as a man with an unwavering commitment to integrity and hard work. It's an honor to name this building for him."

Scianna's gift significantly accelerates the progress of the $10 million fundraising campaign that will, along with $26 million from state bonds in 2010 and 2011, fund the construction of a new business school facility on the Hattiesburg campus and ensure its maintenance in perpetuity. With "Building Better Business" as its goal, the 90,000-square-foot structure, at a total estimated project cost of $33 million, will stand next to the Trent Lott National Center for Excellence in Economic Development and Entrepreneurship and will benefit 2,200 College of Business students, more than 65 faculty members and 17 staff members.

A native of Bay Saint Louis, Miss., Scianna earned his bachelor's degree from Southern Miss. Scianna credits his education at Southern Miss for much of his success as president of Sim-Tex, L.P. in Waller, Texas, one of the leading suppliers of API-certified oil country tubular goods.

"I am where I am today because of my education at Southern Miss," said Scianna. During his time at Southern Miss, Scianna focused on his education and full-time position as co-manager of A & P Food Store in Bay St. Louis, Miss. With an average class load of 23 hours per term, Scianna worked full-time to both pay for his education and apply the knowledge he attained in the classroom to real life management situations.

"I had the unique opportunity to work in the field I was majoring in and was able to discuss my experiences openly and challenge my professors on their lessons," recalled Scianna. "Fortunately, my professors welcomed the opportunity to learn from real life problems."

During his time at Southern Miss, Scianna served in the United States Marine Corps and served in Vietnam. After graduating from Southern Miss in 1975, Scianna moved to Texas to take advantage of the many opportunities the oil industry provided. "I worked in a place full of graduates of the Harvard MBA program and the 'good ol' boys' from University of Texas and Texas A & M. When I began working there, they would all ask me where I went to school and how a boy from Mississippi ended up working with them," said Scianna. "After three or four years, they would ask, 'Where is that place you're from? And how are we working for you now?' I've always said I'd put a business degree from Southern Miss up against any other degree in the country."

In 1978, Scianna decided to take business matters into his own hands and started Oilfield Pump and Equipment. In 1982, the oil industry crashed, leaving Scianna, at age 29, mired in debt. "I spent every penny I had trying to stay afloat without having to lay off any of the 1,700 employees in the company," said Scianna.

"My college ring from Southern Miss is a symbol that I finished what I started. As a first generation college graduate, I wear it with great pride."

After selling the company to pay off his debt, Scianna seized an opportunity to build the multimillion-dollar business, Sim-Tex. While doing consulting work for local banks, he turned a potential major financial loss problem for Hyundai Corporation into a profit for the company. In return, Chung Ju-yung, founder of Hyundai, gave Scianna exclusive distributorship for Hyundai Hysco Pipe Co. products in North America. Sim-Tex is now also the mill representative for Benteler Group, Husteel, Dongbu, Borusan and A-Ju Besteel OCTG products. Scianna's success with the company allows him to support the philanthropies for which he and his family have a passion.

The choice to help fund the College of Business building was a family decision made not only by Scianna, but also by his wife, Rita, and daughters, Ashley and Stephanie. "When we talk about charitable donations, we decide as a family what to give to and everyone has an equal say," explained Scianna. "The girls are very involved in these decisions. They are as excited about this as I am, and they aren't even Southern Miss graduates."

Scianna views his gift as an investment in the future of business education at Southern Miss. "I am interested in making an investment that the University and the state will benefit from," said Scianna. "Dr. Saunders and (dean of the College of Business) Dr. (Lance) Nail are committed to making the College of Business at Southern Miss the number one

Southern Miss alumnus Chuck Scianna, far left, and his wife, Rita, admire an artist's rendering of the College of Business building that will bear his name alongside President Martha Saunders, second from right, and Dr. Lance Nail, dean of the College of Business.

business school in the country, and I want to be a part of that. We will get a greater return on this investment than on any other in the quality of education, curriculum and graduates we produce."

The Southern Miss College of Business is fully accredited by AACSB International – The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Over the past three years, College of Business faculty have generated more than 50 publications in ranked high-citation journals – equaling or surpassing the quality research productivity of doctoral-granting colleges in the region. In 2010, the College of Business entered the *U.S. News & World Report* rankings for business programs for the first time, placing it in the top 15 percent of business programs in the United States.

Scianna and his wife, Rita, are active community volunteers in Houston. Scianna currently serves as president of the Waller Economic Development Corporation and is a member of the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation American Patriots Campaign, the Knights of Columbus Council in Bellville, Texas and The Commandants Circle of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation. Both he and Rita work with Boys and Girls Country, a home providing children from families in crisis with security

and opportunities to prepare for a successful life, and numerous other charities both on a local and national level.

Scianna's daughters, Ashley and Stephanie, both reside in Houston and work for Sim-Tex. Scianna and Rita enjoy working on their ranch, fishing and spending time with their family, including their granddaughter, Claire.

"We are honored to receive this transformational gift from Chuck and Rita Scianna. Knowing their philosophy on philanthropy is one of both benevolence and investment makes this gift even more special," said Nail. "The Sciannas treat their giving as an investment where they seek the highest return on the positive impact on society. For Chuck and Rita to invest in us means that they expect great things from Southern Miss and the College of Business – an expectation that we will more fully realize with our new state of the art facilities."

The $5 million gift from Scianna brings the Building Better Business Campaign to 75 percent completion. USM Foundation and University officials are working to raise the remaining $2.5 million so that construction can proceed in spring 2012. For more information on the Building Better Business Campaign, contact the USM Foundation at 601.266.5210 or visit www.usmfoundation.com/businessbuilding.

THE CREATION OF Caliente grille

By Shaunda French

When one walks into Caliente Grille, there is a sense of familiarity. This may be because your favorite employee greets you with a smile and already knows what embellishments you want on your burrito. Or perhaps it is because you run into an acquaintance, who is also enjoying his or her favorite Mexican dish. More than likely though, you feel a sense of hospitality because founder, Charles Arinder, has worked extensive, long hours to give Caliente Grille the cultural sense of Southern Miss and the Hattiesburg community.

As Caliente Grille's fourth anniversary arrives, Charles Arinder reflects back on how the development of Caliente Grille all began and the direction he would like to see it take in the future.

An accounting business major, Charles Arinder '06, found himself questioning the direction he wanted to pursue post-graduation. During his 2006 spring semester, he was working as an intern at a local accounting firm. "I quickly realized that I did not want to pursue accounting as my career and sit at a desk every day from eight to five."

Thus, Charles began thinking about the route he wanted his future to take, and on more than one occasion went back to the idea of opening a restaurant in Hattiesburg. A native of Columbia, Miss., he had grown quite fond of his college town and wanted to start his post-graduation life and career in Hattiesburg. With a vision in mind, Charles called several restaurant franchises to see if any would be willing to open a location in Hattiesburg. Yet, he always heard the same concerns and rejections from franchises suggesting that Hattiesburg was not a populated enough area for a franchise to be successful.

Charles could have given up on his Hattiesburg restaurant dream, yet instead was even more determined to do so, realizing that what he needed to do was establish a new restaurant, something Hattiesburg had never seen before. With the help of childhood friend Eric Webb, "two Mississippi boys" began their journey into developing Caliente Grille.

Put simply, the road to opening Caliente Grille was a tough and trying time. Charles himself describes it as an "interesting ride." Numerous banks rejected the option of a commercial loan. Similar to the dismissal of restaurant franchises, Charles was told that Hattiesburg was too small and that, quite frankly, it would be difficult to become a successful business. Still though, Charles continued to search for a loan, and when one bank decided the concept was worth taking a chance, a loan was obtained. The construction of Caliente Grille began in mid-May 2007, and on August, 30, 2007, Caliente Grille opened its doors to the community of Southern Miss and Hattiesburg.

As Charles reflects back on the past four years, he admits that there have been many roadblocks. This economy is a strenuous time for any small business, let alone a restaurant, to keep their doors open, yet Caliente has maintained and been able to do so. Charles credits a very loyal customer base for helping the restaurant through these trying times, which includes his family, friends and employees.

As Charles revised the Caliente values and mission statements in 2009, he asked himself, "How do I give back?" This question led to the establishment of many promotions and contributions to several local community organizations including The University of Southern Mississippi's DuBard School for Language Disorders. "In college I lived on fraternity row. I went by the DuBard School every day. People aren't familiar enough with the benefits this organization provides."

Charles Arinder loves Southern Miss and the Hattiesburg community. Quite possibly, it may have been an easier journey if Charles had moved to a bigger city to open up a restaurant, yet he truly believes that Hattiesburg has a strong sense of uniqueness that any business needs to be successful.

Currently, Charles continues to strengthen the Caliente Grille franchise, all the while continuing to give back and support the people who support him the most; his friends, family and the familiar faces that walk through the doors of the restaurant every day.

Charles Arinder

Marie Holowoch, the only Harry S. Truman Scholarship winner from Mississippi for 2011, spends time at The Children's Center located on the Southern Miss Hattiesburg campus.

THE Voice FOR Autism

By Marie Jahn '11

Having spent two years in ardent preparation, Marie Holowach can now call herself the only Harry S. Truman Scholarship winner from Mississippi for 2011. The speech and human sciences major has also made history by having the first non-distinctly governmental background when chosen as a winner: "I am just a speech pathology major with a passion for autism," Holowach said. The Madison, Miss., native will begin her senior year this fall, after having spent the summer residing in Indiana and finishing up her Honors thesis. The Presidential Scholar and National Merit Finalist maintains a cumulative 4.0 grade point average at Southern Miss, making Holowach competitive for the Truman Scholarship.

The Truman Scholarship is a nationally recognized award program which provides financial support for future graduate study, leadership training and fellowship with other students who are committed to making a difference through public service. The network of national scholars is dedicated to professional work in their respective fields and making a difference in their communities.

The zealous dedication to her area of interest has led Holowach to become a leader in the autistic community and a stand-out, though nontraditional, candidate for the Truman Scholarship. After founding an entrepreneurial nonprofit enterprise known as Daniel's Voice Candles, in honor of her own cousin who is affected by nonverbal autism, Holowach now donates all profits to a statewide autism awareness organization. Together Enhancing Autism Awareness in Mississippi, also known as TEAAM, now has a Southern Miss chapter thanks to Holowach's perseverance, making it the first collegiate chapter in the state.

As for her journey to becoming a Truman Scholar, Holowach recalls how the application itself helped her to hone in on her goals: "The Truman competition is designed to be intense, grueling, and if done right, the application itself will change your life." Focusing on autism advocacy, Holowach worked closely with Southern Miss' national scholarship adviser, Robyn Curtis, to prepare for the arduous application process, which includes a nomination process, personal statement, a policy proposal and writing portion.

The writing portion may have been the most personal aspect to Holowach's application: "My final essay revealed that I, too, am on the autism spectrum, and that I can be a voice from and for the autistic community through my advocacy work." Holowach's own experience with the complex brain disorder is what fuels her passion to help others: "I had to learn by rote how to interact in social situations and how to communicate with others. I want to use the opportunities given to me and pass those on to other autistic people."

After revealing her individual connection to autism, Holowach was named as a Truman Scholar Finalist and was invited to participate in the interview process, which took place in Nashville, Tenn. "The five-member judging panel tries to determine how the candidate acts, speaks and thinks under pressure. The questions are designed to test the strength of the candidate's position, measure the depth and breadth of knowledge on issues related to his or her field, and to probe the finalist's knowledge of current events and history."

In preparation for the meticulous interview round, Holowach turned to Southern Miss Honors College for guidance. Setting up numerous practice interviews with leading faculty, professors and even former Truman Scholar finalists, Holowach dedicated hours to perfecting her skills through simulations of the actual interview.

Once selected as only one of 60 Truman Scholars for the upcoming year, Holowach is elated at the possibilities she has been given to promote and better her chosen topic. Traveling to the Truman Leadership Scholar Week this May gave Holowach numerous ideas to the many paths to community service and how to achieve her goals in the coming months. "I am honored to be a part of this amazing group of people," Holowach said.

Through her work as a speech therapist, Holowach will focus on autism awareness advocacy and improving autistic children's treatment in public school settings, and plans to lobby for specific autism-friendly legislation that will create a more hospitable learning environment for this population of students: "The educational system is not well suited for students on the autism spectrum, and I hope to gain influence through national organizations such as the American Speech and Hearing Association and the Autism Self-Advocacy Network."

From learning about the Truman Scholarship as a freshman to what Holowach calls the "self-defining" application process, Holowach credits Southern Miss for helping her along her journey to becoming a Truman Scholar. "This competition really was a team effort."

Former Baseball Coach C.J. "Pete" Taylor Dies

Celestian J. "Pete" Taylor, who served as head baseball coach at The University of Southern Mississippi from 1958-83, died at his residence in Hattiesburg Sunday, May 15. He was 92.

Taylor came to Southern Miss in 1941, then known as Mississippi Southern College, playing offensive and defensive end for its football team. He left to serve in the U.S. Army Air Corp during World War II, but returned to the University afterward to continue playing football and earn his degree.

After graduation he enjoyed success as a high school football coach in New Orleans and St. Louis, and then came back to Hattiesburg to join legendary head football coach Thad "Pie" Van's staff as an assistant coach. In addition to his duties as head baseball coach, he also served Southern Miss as a track and field coach and as assistant athletic director.

Pete Taylor Park, the University's current baseball facility, was constructed and named in his honor in 1985 and is known affectionately by many Southern Miss fans as "The Pete." Two of his former players, Hill Denson and Corky Palmer, succeeded him as head baseball coach.

"If you were to look up the words 'Southern gentleman,' his picture should be there," said current Southern Miss Head Baseball Coach Scott Berry. "It's just a tremendous loss to us. But I know he would be the first to tell you that he lived a great life, and that the University was a big part of it.

"He did so much for this baseball program, this University and this community," Berry said. "One of my fondest memories of him was when he would volunteer to serve Thanksgiving dinner at Christian Services for those in need. We're really going to miss him."

Memorials to Taylor may be made to the C.J. "Pete" Taylor Memorial Baseball Scholarship, USM Athletic Foundation, P.O. Box 15458 Hattiesburg, MS 39404.

THE PETE AT SOUTHERN MISS

As the passing of the great C.J. "Pete" Taylor was made public, the Southern Miss Alumni Association received numerous write-ups recalling memories and personal experiences of the former head baseball coach. Below is an excerpt sent in by Jerry Taylor '53, '59, '75:

Entering Southern Miss in 1953, I had four great years under several great coaches and mentors, including Coach Taylor. He worked tirelessly with my teammates and I and surely gave me plenty of wise and crucial pointers. He worked so hard with me that he must have seen some potential. I was and am still very grateful for his expertise.

Coach Taylor was often seen walking around on campus and frequently checking on his ballplayers. A memory I won't forget follows:

My new girlfriend at the time, Fredde Mincher '58, an original Dixie Darling and I use to sit frequently on the benches on campus to enjoy each other in a typical 'new romance' way. There was a bench on the corner of Mississippi Hall, and we were there one day when Coach Taylor approached us. We smiled and chatted, but I was holding a cigarette, having been a high school chain smoker, and smoking was off limits, especially for a football player. I quickly swung my hand behind the bench between Fredde and me as we noticed Coach Taylor looking strongly at a curl of smoke rising up between the two of us. All he said to us was, "See you later." The next day when I reported to practice, Coach Taylor called out my name and said, "Taylor, give me 20 trips up and down the stadium." Enough said. As my memory serves me, Fredde and I were hopeful that he would think, "Well, they are new sweethearts. It wasn't cigarettes, just smokin' hormones."

I do wish I could tell Coach Taylor that Fredde and I are still sweethearts (57 years). She is a performing Dixie Darling every year at age 75, and I am a faithful sports alumnus, M-Club alumnus, Southern miss alumnus and an official Dixie Darling carrier (totes luggage, cameras, coats, etc.) at age 75.

2011 SOUTHERN MISS FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT
Sept. 3	Louisiana Tech
Sept. 10	at Marshall
Sept. 17	Southeastern Louisiana
Sept. 24	at Virginia
Oct. 1	Rice
Oct. 8	at Navy
Oct. 15	Open
Oct. 22	SMU (Homecoming)
Oct. 29	at UTEP
Nov. 5	at East Carolina
Nov. 12	UCF
Nov. 17	at UAB
Nov. 26	Memphis

LADY EAGLE VOLLEYBALL HOME SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sept. 30	Memphis*	7 p.m.
Oct. 2	UAB *	1 p.m.
Oct. 14	East Carolina*	7 p.m.
Oct. 16	Marshall*	Noon
Oct. 23	UCF*	1 p.m.
Nov. 04	SMU*	7 p.m.
Nov. 05	SMU*	7 p.m.
Nov. 18	Rice*	7 p.m.
Nov. 20	Houston*	1 p.m.
Nov. 22	Tulane*	7 p.m.

*Conference Event

DISCOVER DOWNTOWN

All Aboard Sculture Exhibit
September 9-29
Hattiesburg Train Depot

Mobile Street Festival
September 30-October 2
Mobile Street

Fall Art Walk
October 8
Streets of Downtown

USM Homecoming Parade
October 22
Streets of Downtown
Starts at 10 a.m.

HISTORIC downtown HATTIESBURG, MS

Winter Wonderland
December 9-10
Jackie Dole Sherrill
Community Center

Holiday Art Walk
December 10
Streets of Downtown

Victorian Candlelit Christmas
December 10-11
Luminaries, carriage rides,
entertainment and refreshments

WWW.DOWNTOWNHATTIESBURG.COM

Tom and Joni Dudley support the Eagle Club Scholarship Program.

The Eagle Club is "Making A Difference"

The Eagle Club would like to thank everyone for their support of the Eagle Club Scholarship Program in facilitating a record year in membership and fundraising. The scholarship program will meet or exceed its fundraising goal of $2.1 million.

As the University charges forth into the impending football season, it should never go without saying that an investment in the Eagle Club is a lifelong "difference-maker" for young Southern Miss student-athletes who are leaders on the playing field, in the classroom and across many local communities.

Additionally, the Eagle Club would like to express a special "thank you" to those who provided Southern Miss Athletics with a full or half scholarship on an annual basis.

Steve Strickland, 86' explained why he chose to support the annual scholarship program: "Quite simply, I do it for the pride I have in our University. By nature, I'm a very competitive person, so I want anything I'm associated with to do well. I want our student-athletes to have every opportunity to excel in their chosen sport at the highest level and, more importantly, receive a quality education. These young men and women are our future, and as a financial advisor, I'm a big believer in investing for the future. Without question, at Southern Miss, our greatest asset is our people and if I may, in some way, affect a positive outcome of that asset, then I'm all in."

Tom and Joni Dudley, both Southern Miss supporters, routinely travel from Dallas, Texas, to Hattiesburg for home football games. "Southern Miss has been part of our family for 51 years," said Tom Dudley. "Many positive changes have occurred during this span. Southern Miss students, faculty and alumni all play a major role in this great country and are known for sharing. When you think of Southern hospitality, it is synonymous with Southern Miss."

The Dudleys believe the future of this country is enhanced by the education of our young men and women. "Hopefully this donation will provide that opportunity," Dudley explained. "For those that might be approaching retirement or have the means to "make a difference," we have also left Southern Miss in our trust and hope others will, too. There are so many ways to give back – trusts, wills, insurance and many other programs. We hope others will join us and help our beloved University."

With the Eagle Club intended to be a lifelong experience, there is never a better time to get involved than now. For additional information on the Eagle Club, contact Dick Vogel at 601.266.5299 or richard.vogel@usm.edu.

Academic Successes Achieved Partially Due to Eagle Club Scholarship

- The Southern Miss Volleyball program was awarded its third consecutive team award for excellence in the classroom for being one of 92 NCAA Division I women's programs earning the 2010-11 American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Team Academic Award.
- Megan Hill and Todd McInnis were recognized as the 2010 Student-Athlete Advisory Council Student-Athletes of the Year.
- Southern Miss redshirt senior quarterback Austin Davis and former Southern Miss baseball player Marc Bourgeois were named the 2010-11 Conference USA Scholar Athletes in their respective sports.
- Southern Miss tennis player Jan Burmeister added yet another academic honor to his list as he was honored as a member of the Capital One Academic All-District men's at-large teams. The Golden Eagle senior holds a flawless 4.0 GPA in the classroom as an international business major, earning his second-straight CoSIDA Academic All-District VI first team honor. He was named to the Conference USA All-Academic Team for the second-straight time this past season.
- Women's tennis player Elja van Berlo garnered Conference USA honors having been named to the 2011 Conference USA Women's Tennis All-Academic Team.

Golden Memories in the Making

For more than 100 years, the University of Southern Mississippi has been educating our future and setting a soaring example of greatness in our state and beyond. We are proud to supply the power to help energize the minds of students, faculty and friends of this university. May your next 100 years be even brighter.

MISSISSIPPI POWER

A SOUTHERN COMPANY

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As the temperature falls, be sure to wrap yourself in the warmest black and gold. And when you brave the conditions in your Southern Miss gear, be sure to let us know. Send photos* of yourself, your family and friends, and we will print as many as space allows in a future edition of Snapshots.

Barrett Palazza, son of Congressman Steven Palazza '94, '96 and Lisa Belvin '94 shows a glimpse into the future of Southern Miss Baseball.

Nancy Price '73, '80 enjoyed a year-long 60th birthday celebration where one of her favorite locations was the Eiffel Tower in Paris. Price happily exclaimed, "Now that's what I call taking Southern Miss to the Top!"

Southern Miss alumni and friends gathered in New York City for the 31st Annual Mississippi Picnic in Central Park. The annual picnic took place June 11 in Central Park at Bandshell and 72nd Street.

Above: While visiting the University of Calarada Boulder this past March, Lamar Lott '88, '97 and his san, Mitchell, praudly displayed their black and gald. Even Ralphie, the CU mascat, couldn t help but appreciate the Sauthern Miss pride!

Left: Erin Finley Granberry '82, '84, '06 hiked up the Mackinnon Pass an the Milfard Track in New Zealand this past April with her husband Dennis. Granberry, shown wearing her "The Rock hat credits her successful hike to aur rack, M.M. Raberts Stadium, where she trained walking up and dawn the stadium steps many times to prepare far the expedition.

The Marshall family and friends enjoyed a Galden Eagle reunion May 2011 in Orange Beach, Ala.

Kim Schramm '93 and Tanya Pawell '00 enjayed a day af sightseeing including the White Hause while in Washington, D.C., ta receive the 2011 Outstanding Physical Therapist/Physical Therapist Assistant Team Award fram the American Physical Therapy Assaciation. Cangratulatians ladies!

Jahnny Busby spause af Stacy Busby '90 (nat pictured) along with their two children David and Elizabeth gathered fa a pase at Piedmant Park in Atlanta before the Southern Miss baseball team playea Georgia Tech in the 2011 Atlanta Regional Series.

***For printing purposes, please save or scan your photos at a resolution of 300 dpi. If you have any questions, contact the Alumni Association at 601.266.5013.**

Now is your chance to catch up on the news and accomplishments of your fellow Golden Eagles. To submit your news to The Talon, please send your information to the Southern Miss Alumni Association, 118 College Drive #5013, Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001, e-mail alumni@usm.edu or post it online at SouthernMissAlumni.com. All cities are in Mississippi unless otherwise noted.

1950s

HAROLD D. LOVE '58 and his wife Sue have been married 52 years. The two reside in Conway, Ark.

GLENN TRIPLETT '59 received the Orpheus Award at a recent concert where he served as guest conductor.

1960s

DENNIS F. BAILEY '65 recently married his college sweetheart. The two reside in Brandon.

1970s

TRAVIS NORMAN '70 retired from Lockheed Martin in July. He has spent 29 years working in the Ship Integration and Test Group/Combat Systems Installation Engineering as part of the Aegis Test Team at Ingalls Shipbuilding in Pascagoula, Miss. He worked for Ingalls Shipbuilding for 17 years prior to his tenure with Lockheed Martin.

LINDA GARRIGA THEOBALD '70 retired from the U.S. government after 40 years of service. Theobald worked for NASA and, additionally, the Department of Defense. Linda resides with her husband **DAVID '71** in Diamondhead, and now enjoys being a full-time artist.

AUBREY E. MITCHELL '72, '95 retired from Columbia Training School in 1995. Mitchell now has a timber farm in Pike County.

LAURA SWEET '72 has been awarded the Sue Kraft Fussell Distinguished Service Award. This award recognizes those individuals who have exhibited professional standards and achievement in men's and women's fraternity advising and, additionally, outstanding achievement in various other areas including campus programming, development and research activities, and service to the college community. Sweet serves as the senior associate dean of students at East Carolina University.

MIKE CHANCE '73 was named Agent of the Year in 2010 for Coldwell Banker Commercial United, Realtors in Houston, Texas. Mike resides with his wife **NANCY '73** in Pearland, Texas.

SKEET JERNIGAN '73 has been selected as the executive director of the Broward Chamber of Nonprofit Organizations.

HEDERMAN BROTHERS
PRINTING & DIRECT MAIL
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Art Studio, Bridal Registry, Gift Shop, Framing and More!
Located in the Newpointe Shopping Center at Highway 98 West
6555 U.S. Highway 98 West, Suite B, Hattiesburg, MS 39402
Phone: 601.579.9378

MIKE MCGEE '73 has been the deputy director for the Mississippi Real Estate Appraiser Licensing and Certification Board since July 2005. McGee has more than 30 years of expertise in the real estate field.

RICHARD PETERS '73 has retired from the public school system and now teaches at a Christian school.

JACKIE LANDERS '74 recently became a great-grandfather in May 2011. Jackie resides in Biloxi.

DR. JAY DEAN '75, '77, The University of Southern Mississippi director of orchestral activities was named the new artistic director of the Natchez Festival of Music, which was May 1-28, 2011.

DR. MAUREEN MARTIN '75, director of the DuBard School for Language Disorders at The University of Southern Mississippi, served as the Mississippi representative at the national meeting of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association's Speech Language Pathology Advisory Council in Washington, D.C. **LISA ABBOTT MOORE '91** served as the Vermont representative at the conference.

STEVE PHILLIP AMOS '76 of Hazelhurst is the commissioner of Region 8 Mental Health.

DR. WILLIAM KRINGEL '76 of Theodore, Ala., was recently appointed to the position of state chair, Alabama Committee, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve.

Valerie Linn '84

Valerie Linn '84 wholeheartedly believes in the motto, "Pay it forward." She was only a young teenager when her cousin was diagnosed with meningitis, but his illness has influenced her to this day. The doctors said her cousin would probably not survive the illness, yet he did. In addition, the family was told that if he did survive, he would more than likely never walk or communicate again. However, once again, he surpassed the odds. After her cousin had his reoccurring appointments at the Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences, her extended family would frequently stop by Valerie's childhood home on their way back to Quitman, Miss. During these family visits, Valerie became intrigued with the help that Southern Miss was providing for her cousin, and as she browsed through her cousin's speech development books, she thought to herself that working with children and helping them would be a good career.

A few years later, Southern Miss' support to her cousin led to her decision to become a Golden Eagle, and as a freshman, Valerie declared speech pathology as her major. Valerie recalls while other students changed their majors and were undecided about their futures, she thoroughly enjoyed the program and never doubted she was receiving the best education. "I'm thrilled to have gone to Southern Miss. The environment led me to reach out and be where I am today. The University of Southern Mississippi laid a whole background for me. All of my professors were so knowledgeable and so challenging and encouraging." After graduating from Southern Miss, Valerie worked within the communicative disorders field for more than two decades. Presently, Valerie continues to assist families and help others manage life-threatening diseases, just like Southern Miss did for her and her family. Currently, she took her passion of helping families and children into a different area of importance, juvenile diabetes.

Linn was recently named the executive director of the Mississippi Chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF). Linn has several priorities in mind when looking into the future of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation organization. Most importantly, Linn wants Mississippians to become more knowledgeable about the disease of type I diabetes. She wants to help further educate both parents and children about this disease and how children can still live life to the fullest. Linn genuinely believes that there's hope, as the research foundation seeks not just a cure for diabetes, but further prevention and a continual increase in the quality of life of children with type I diabetes. Until a cure is found, Linn feels that the JDRF should focus on helping families successfully live with this disease and make sure people know that there are people willing and wanting to help. These people, like Valerie Linn, are simply "paying it forward," just like those at the Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences did for Valerie's cousin and their family years ago.

MARK CAREY POLLOCK '76 has worked in the broadcasting industry for 35 years. Pollock has been employed as the director of Jackson's WAPT for the past 16 years and during this time has won numerous awards including the Edward R. Murrow Award, two regional Emmys and several Mississippi Association of Broadcasters honors.

JANET WILLIAMS '77 has been named dean of the Joseph and Nancy Fail School of Nursing at William Carey University. Williams has served in the nursing school for more than 20 years as a teacher and administrator, and most recently as acting dean.

JOHN R. KELLY '79 has been appointed to the Mississippi State Board of Education.

MITTIE NIMOCKS '79 became the provost and vice chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. In her new role, she serves as the chief academic officer of the university, responsible for the oversight, development and implementation of programs, curricula and policies that support its academic mission. Nimocks' appointment became effective Aug. 1, 2010.

1980s

TERESA MCKEE '80 retired after 25 years of teaching. She recently taught at Wayne County and also taught within the Laurel Public Schools. In years prior, Teresa had been named Laurel High Teacher of the Year and the District of Wayne County's Teacher of the Year. Teresa and her husband **DALE '75** reside in Waynesboro.

DWIGHT W. RAWLS '83 has been named branch manager at the Grants Ferry branch in Flowood. He previously worked at Trustmark and has more than 23 years of banking experience.

ROBERT EDWARD MANNING '84 recently published his fourth book, *Thoughts of Spring*. Dr. Manning also writes monthly education article for the *Meridian Press* in southern New Jersey.

JIM WARREN '84 was recently elected as a fellow of the Mississippi Bar Foundation. The fellows designation is the Foundation's highest honor, and only 10 percent of the lawyers in Mississippi are eligible for membership as a fellow.

DR. HARRIET L. JONES '85, a board-certified, infectious diseases-trained internist, has joined the University of Mississippi Medical Center as an associate professor in the Department of Medicine. She also has a dual appointment to the School of Nursing Advanced Practice Program.

AUBREY BOYCE '87 and wife Carol celebrated 50 years of marriage on July 17, 2010. The couple resides in Gainesville, Ga.

JOHN '89 and **SARAH '90, '95 THOMSEN** established Diddy Bops, an indoor inflatable jump zone in April 2010 and recently received the Best of the Pine Belt Award.

1990s

DR. MARTHA LOU SMITH '91, '94, '04 has been named vice president for general education and technology services at Pearl River Community College.

HUGH FREEZE '92 has been named the new Arkansas State University football coach.

PAMELA HALL '93 has been named manager of the Regions Bank Edgewater Branch in Biloxi. A banking industry veteran with more than 13 years of experience, Hall previously served as district manager for American General Financial Services.

JIANQING ZHENG '93, '96 edited the book, *The Other World of Richard Wright: Perspectives on His Haiku*. Jianqing is also the department chair of English at Mississippi Valley State University.

RHONDA COLLINS MAYNARD '95 welcomed daughter Josslyn Marie Maynard on March 7, 2011. Maynard is employed by Ohio Health and lives in Columbus, Ohio.

ADAM C. KENNEDY '95, '96 has been admitted to the partnership of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP. Adam, his wife Andrea and two children, Cody (5) and Cecilia (3), reside in Chantilly, Va., a suburb of Washington, D.C.

TROY '95, '97 and **ERIN '97 JOHNSTON** welcomed daughter Margaret Ann on July 6, 2011.

WILLIAM KRISTEN COLE '96, a native of Natchez, has been named vice president of sales at Sysco Jackson LLC.

ERIC AMICK '97, '98 and his wife Rebekka announce the birth of their son Jonah Logan, born on February 15, 2011. Jonah was welcomed by big brother Caleb.

WENDY JEAN SONSTROM '97, '11 of The University of Southern Mississippi's doctoral program in education with an emphasis in adult education, presented a component of her dissertation research at the 2011 Harvard Graduate School of Education Student Research Conference in April.

TANYA BOND '99 was named the 2011 Employee of the Year at Southern Bone and Joint Specialists, P.A.

BRANNON COSTELLO '99 edited the book, *Howard Chaykin: Conversations*. In addition, Brannon is an associate professor of English at Louisiana State University.

CHRISTOPHER '98, '01 and **AMBER BOND HATTEN '00, '01** announce the birth of their daughter, Caroline Elizabeth Hatten, born on January 6, 2011. She was welcomed by big brother Will. The Hattens reside in Madison, Miss.

2000s

JAMIE JERNIGAN '00 recently joined GodwinGroup as the senior brand manager. Prior to GodwinGroup, Jernigan was employed at the *Sun Herald*.

RAD and **JENNIFER LANG '00** welcomed daughter Ann Marie on July 8, 2011.

CEDRIC '00, '09 and **DORIAN SCOTT '02** announce the birth of their son Cedric Scott Jr., born April 1, 2011. C.J. was welcomed with love by Golden Eagle grandmother, **CAROL WALLACE '91, '97.** The Scotts reside in Hattiesburg.

MELISSA CARPENTER '01 has been named the scholarship chairman and treasurer for the Mississippi Association of Educational Office Professionals.

KEITH DAVIS '01 became the chief of police for the city of Moss Point.

DR. and **MRS. DAVID OLIVER '02,** along with their son, Hawk, announce the birth of Gabriella Thuy Tien Oliver. Gabby was born in Franklin, North Carolina, and weighed 6 pounds and 10 ounces.

KESHIA GAINES '03 is working toward completing a doctoral degree in educational administration. Keshia and her husband **KEVIN '03,** reside in Gulfport.

Whit Meeks '08

One thing leads to another. That certainly could be the life motto of Whitney Meeks. Since he was young, Whit knew he belonged at Southern Miss and was meant to be a Golden Eagle. His dad, sister and numerous aunts and uncles had all graduated from Southern Miss, and this 'family' institution was the exact place for him to receive his undergraduate education. Thus began the Southern Miss education of Whit Meeks.

With an early interest in foreign languages, Whit took advantage of the University's prominent International Education programs and studied abroad on three separate occasions. During these international programs, he continually improved his foreign language skills, and in the meantime, a desire in international volunteerism developed. While studying abroad and on campus, Whit received numerous honors and awards including the following: Most Outstanding Freshman Male, the Maria Leonard Senior Book Award, the Department of Foreign Language Most Outstanding Student in Spanish, and other recognition.

After graduating *summa cum laude* in December 2008 with a bachelor's degree in foreign languages, Whit made a life-changing decision. He decided to join the Peace Corps and spent the next two years in Ecuador serving as a natural resources conservation volunteer. During his time abroad, Whit utilized his foreign language studies from Southern Miss and thoroughly enjoyed his time volunteering internationally. Not only had Whit found a passion in international volunteerism, but he decided he wanted to make a career out of his international interests that had emerged at Southern Miss. Once back in the United States, Whit began the process of applying to law school. He was accepted into 12 of 14 universities he applied to and will begin his law studies this fall at the highly prestigious New York University Law School.

Whit plans to emphasize his studies in international property law and credits Southern Miss for his enthusiasm in this particular field. He believes studying abroad with the esteemed international program here at Southern Miss has led to his success and future achievements. Although Whit will now be a New Yorker, he has already inquired about the New York City Southern Miss Alumni Chapter. After all, you can take the young alum out of Hattiesburg, and even the United States, but you can't take the Golden Eagle pride out of him. It's in the family genes.

Robin Robinson

Robin Robinson Embarks on Presidency of IHL Board

Robin Robinson '78 became the president of the Board of Trustees of the State Institutions of Higher Learning on May 7, 2011. Robinson will handle the Mississippi higher education responsibilities throughout May 2015. In addition to IHL, Robinson is employed at Sanderson Farms Incorporation as the director of organization development and corporate communication. Robinson is also involved with the Mississippi chapter of the American Lung Association, the United Way of the Pine Belt, the Governor's Commission for Recovery and many other community organizations.

Bobby Rayburn Inducted into Hall of Fame

Bobby Rayburn

Bobby Rayburn '69 was honored and inducted into the 2011 National Housing Hall of Fame. Rayburn was chosen as one of the select few to receive this honor presented by the National Housing Center Board of Governors in Washington, D.C., this past May. This is not the first recognition Rayburn has received for residential building. He has been honored by the Home Builders Association of Greater Hattiesburg, the Home Builder Association of Jackson and Home Builders Association of Mississippi. Throughout the years, Rayburn has developed more than 3,300 affordably priced homes in Mississippi.

DR. STEVEN MOSER '03, senior associate dean in The University of Southern Mississippi College of Arts and Letters, was appointed interim dean of the college beginning July 1, 2011.

AMY and **WADE '03 HOUK** announce the birth of their son Grant Carlyle, born on May 23, 2011. The Houks reside in Gulfport.

BRETT and **VALERIE MCALPIN '04** of Birmingham, Ala., announce the September 21, 2010, birth of their daughter, Margaret Helen McAlpin. Grandparents are **BARBARA '74, '77** and **DAVID HOLT '78** of Laurel and **CONNIE '90** and Ronnie McAlpin of Stringer.

MICHAEL' 04 and **TRICIA INGRAM '03** announce the birth of their daughter Maggie Jane, born May 24, 2011. Maggie was additionally welcomed by grandparents **ROBERT D. '70** and Barbara P. Ingram.

COURTNEY PUCKETT MCILWAINE '03, '08 welcomed son Liam Cael McIlwaine. In addition, Courtney is expecting a second son this fall in September.

BENJAMIN SNOW '04, '05 and Sarah Liles were married on July 16, 2011. The two reside in Hattiesburg, where Snow is employed with the law firm of Pittman, Howdeshell, Hinton and Hightower.

AMY RICHARDSON '04 was named Bay High School's Teacher of the Year for 2011.

NIKKI SKRMETTI '04 has been named manager of Hancock Bank's Washington Avenue branch in Ocean Springs.

SETH SULLIVAN '04 recently won a national championship at the National Karate Tournament. He will now compete in the International Karate Tournament in Hawaii.

DREW '05 and Jennifer Causey are happy to announce the arrival of their son Chandler Graham Causey. The family resides in Poplarville.

CHRISTIAN MONSON '05 was promoted as a parish-wide assistant principal at St. Tammany Parish Public Schools.

BRANDI MAYFIELD O'NEAL '05 and husband Jon Michael, along with proud grandmother **MARY O'NEAL '75** announce the birth of Claire Mignoone, born on December 20, 2010.

Driskell Selected as Outstanding Young Business Professional

Matt Driskell

Matt Driskell '99 was honored as a "Top 10 in 10" young business professional in accordance with the Augusta Metro Chamber of Commerce and *Augusta Magazine*. This recognition led to a further nomination for Driskell to the "Georgia Trend's 40 Under 40 Competition," which is defined as "an outstanding group of individuals poised to lead our state's commercial, cultural, academic and governmental institutions into the future." Driskell is the director of managed care and reimbursement at the Medical College of Georgia Health System Incorporation.

Brown Named Director of Student Services for Biloxi Public Schools

Jermaine Brown

Jermaine Brown '01, '05 was named director of student services for Biloxi Public Schools in January. Prior to this position, Brown served as an assistant principal and director of student services for Forrest County Schools. Brown also served as director of athletics and student services for the Meridian Public School District for four years.

As director of student services, Brown will be responsible for overseeing the school resource officers, alternative school, student discipline hearings, issues related to student guardianship and residency, tuition and the district's in-school suspension program.

DR. MARY CHUNG '06 has been named assistant professor of piano at Oklahoma Baptist University.

ARIEL GARDNER '06, a native of Vidalia, La., joined Natchez Incorporation as the office/communication manager.

KEITH HEMBREE '06 was presented with the New Professional Award during the Southeastern Panhellenic Association 2011 Annual Conference held in Atlanta, Ga. Keith was recognized for his outstanding work and dedication to Greek Life affairs and their members on his campus.

KATHLEEN KOCH '06 won a gold award in the Southeast region from Independent Publishers for her nonfiction book, *Rising from Katrina*.

BEN WHEELER '06 served as a visiting assistant professor of theatre at Northwest State University of Louisiana.

JASON and **JACKIE DEFATTA '07** welcomed baby Elijah " Eli" Joseph DeFatta on July 13, 2011.

BRAD BOYLES '08 of Monticello received an award from Mississippi College School of Law during its annual Law Day ceremony. Boyles was the recipient of the Regions Bank Award, given to the student with the highest average in wills and estates.

CATHERINE BURKS '08, producer and creator of *Ed Said*, a children's program, won the Parents' Choice Approved Award from Mississippi Public Broadcasting.

HANNAH RACHAL '09 coordinated a variety talent show for the Hattiesburg Spay and Neuter Clinic. The show, hosted by Miss Hattiesburg **KRISTEN BENIGNO '11,** brought in more than $3,000 for the clinic.

NEIL ROGERS '09 received the Mississippi Bar Foundation Award from Mississippi College School of Law.

2010s

MELISSA WEINBERGER '10 was recently named the GodwinGroup brand coordinator at their Gulf Coast office.

ALUMNI AUTHORS

To submit a book for inclusion in Alumni Authors, please e-mail alumni@usm.edu with the title, author's name and year of graduation, cost, page count, publisher and year of publication, brief synopsis of the book, and an electronic copy of the cover in jpg, tif or pdf format at 300 dpi.

Double Team Trap
Jim McLain '56
Jim McLain, 2010
236 pages, $20

Double Team Trap is the story of Ben Bartel, a U.S Army private completing a two-year tour of duty during the Cold War. At the beginning of his tour, Bartel's intent was to gain some experience on his battalion's basketball team to increase his chances of gaining a college scholarship. Unfortunately, these ambitions are abandoned when a chance encounter in a London train station puts Bartel in the middle of a dangerous espionage mission that has him fighting for his life in England and West Germany. This suspense novel will captivate readers with a well-written story of two American GIs fighting against English Teddy Boys and assassins from the Soviet Union.

The genius of *Double Team Trap* is its recreation of Cold War Europe from the viewpoint of an American GI. With detailed writing, author Jim McLain puts the reader in the scenes with the characters dealing with the political complexities of the post-war era. Author Jim McLain's unique writing style and experiences help bring this book to life and ensure readers will continue turning pages until the end.

Aggie
Scott Wimberly '89
Tate Publishing, July 2011
173 pages, $12.99

Nearly every person suffers from some type of an addiction. This is a story about a man that has addictions in his life. When he is found out and comes clean, it is surprising how his family, his friends and his church treat him.

Travis thought his life was over. His wife had left him and taken his daughter. His addictions kept him enslaved. But just when he thinks he has hit rock bottom, the mysterious Aggie shows up at his door. See how Aggie takes Travis through the steps of the recovering from his addictions. Will this stranger's grace be enough to lead Travis along the painful path through brokenness into recovery? As Travis finds himself compelled to trust Aggie, he begins to wonder just who this man is and whether he is truly human after all.

Scott Wimberly has worked as a high school teacher and church administrator, but now he follows his passion for writing and life coaching. He resides in Tuscaloosa, Ala., with his wife and daughter.

Pain Unforgiven
Randy Pierce '87, '92
Steer Hollow Publishing, 2011
356 pages, $24.95

Pain Unforgiven, the debut novel by Randy Pierce, takes a controversial look into the life of Grant Hicks, a successful Atlanta attorney from rural Greene County, Mississippi. Pierce's novel introduces the reader to a host of unforgettable characters, situations and issues that captivate the hearts of small-town America.

Grant Hicks, a flourishing Atlanta-based attorney, has two missions in life – to never fail at any task and to NEVER return to Greene County. His untold history of painful memories pierced deep into the soul of Hicks. The novel chronicles the taboos, small-town stereotypes and emotions Grant is forced to face after learning that his childhood friend, Brandon Smallwood, is dying. Brandon's death bed wish is to see Grant one last time before his untimely passing. Grant has not been back to Greene County since he left to follow in the footsteps of his attorney father.

In Memoriam

DOROTHY N. STOKES '38
of Petal, died May 27, 2011.

ISAAC NEWTON WILSON SR. '38
of Monticello, died June 2, 2011.

GIRDELLE S. DENT '40
of Hattiesburg, died June 25, 2011.

ANNIE HAUGHEY CARTER MORGAN '41
of Jackson, died June 7, 2011.

MARY P. LEVEREAULT '43
of Ridgeland, died Apr. 8, 2011.

MARY JO "JODIE" MORGAN '45
of Hattiesburg, died June 22, 2011.

WALTER THOMAS HELTON '49
of Corpus Christi, Tx., died June 5, 2011.

JOHN T. LEGROS JR. '51
of Burke, Va., died July 6, 2011.

WILLIAM EDWARD MILNER '51
of Brandon, died June 6, 2011.

NELLIE L. O'GORMAN '52
of Gulfport, died Apr. 15, 2011.

AUDREY S. PRINGLE '52
of Hattiesburg, died June 7, 2011.

COL. HENRY L. CONN '54
of Fort Walton Beach, Fl., died June 4, 2011.

ANDREW J. KILPATRICK '54
of Grenada, died May 20, 2011.

LEO TUNSTALL HERRMANN '55
of Tomball, Tx., died May 19, 2011.

Grant's father, endeared and loved by the entire community, committed suicide while Grant was in college. A dark cloak of events estranged Grant from his father, leading up to the tragic ending of his father's life. Grant is compelled to tackle the gaping holes in his life when Brandon's request requires him to return to the origin of his tumultuous past.

Grant assumes he will be able to say farewell to his dying friend and continue his existence "after" Greene County, but life unexpectedly draws him back to a place he swore to abandon. Jade Lott, the spirited town beauty, finds her way slowly into the murky abyss of Grant's plagued heart. The embedded love story permeates through Grant's continuous struggle with healing. A multitude of unforgettable characters assist in coloring the canvas of Grant's life. Mysteries are unearthed and questions are answered during a series of events that explain his father's death and his stated hatred for his childhood home.

Randy "Bubba" Pierce, now a Mississippi Supreme Court justice, grew up in Leakesville and attended Greene County Schools.

The Snow Whale
John Minichillo '99
Atticus Books, 2011
266 pages, $14.95

The Snow Whale is a modern twist on Herman Melville's classic, *Moby Dick*. The novel follows a deadly

comical protagonist named John Jacobs, an out-of-shape, middle-aged white guy from the suburbs. When Jacobs takes a DNA test and discovers that he is part Native-American, he insists that it is his tribal right as an Eskimo to join the annual Inuit whale hunt. Jacobs' persistent pursuit of this adventure on the north slope of Alaska becomes the backdrop for a novel that examines race, identity, and how we perceive our place in the modern world.

Minichillo currently teaches fiction writing at Middle Tennessee State University and resides in Nashville, Tenn., with his wife and son.

The Bee-Hive: Fruit, 31 pages
The Bee-Hive: Vegetables, 27 pages
Billie Sue Greenlee '55
Trent's Prints and Publishing, 2010
$9.50 each

With the increasing problem of obesity in the United States, Billie Greenlee became concerned with the number of children growing up today on restaurant fast foods and unhealthy home cooking. She has turned her concerns into two new children's books which promote healthy eating habits and nutrition. Lively and colorful illustrations of fruits and vegetables and short, clever verses combine to provide young children, pre-K through second grade, with enjoyable reading experiences designed to encourage healthy eating habits. The main characters, Buz-Zee and Bee-Bee, lead children through the books from bananas to watermelon and asparagus to tomatoes. Activity pages are included as well as collectible cards.These books are beneficial not only to parents and their children but also to schools, university early childhood programs, and government and private agencies concerned with promoting life-long healthy eating habits.

Billie Sue Pearson Greenlee was born in Biloxi, Mississippi. She has lived in Hattiesburg, Biloxi, and Long Beach, Mississippi, and presently resides in Alabama. Her golden years have afforded her the opportunity to pursue her dreams of writing. In addition to *The Bee-Hive* series, she is currently working on her memoirs.

JANET S. THOMAS '55
of Crystal Springs, died June 26, 2011.

MERACER B. MILLER '56
of Gulfport, died May 13, 2011.

LYONEL T. SENTER JR. '56
of Aberdeen, died May 18, 2011.

GERALD RAY DAVIS '57
of Vancleave, died June 15, 2011.

HENRY "HANK" EADY '57
of Shrevport, La, died Apr. 14, 2011.

LYMAN WYNDOL "BOB" FAGGARD '57
of Lawrenceville, Ga., died Apr. 12, 2011.

WENDELL B. GAVIN '57
of Laurel, died Apr.19, 2011.

IRA L. SMITH '57
of Citronelle, Al., died July 18, 2011.

CHARLES W. MARTIN '58
of New Orleans, La., died July 8, 2011.

JERALD R. NICHOLSON '58
of Birmingham, Al., died July 2, 2011.

RICHARD N. "DICK" HALL, SR. '59
of Nashville, Tn., died June 16, 2011.

CAROLYN A. PARKER '59
of Summit, died May 17, 2011.

DONALD R. MAY '61
of Brandon, died May 29, 2011.

JAMES A. MCCORMICK '61
of McComb, died June 26, 2011.

MARGARET E. BRASHEARS '62
of Knoxville, Tn., died Apr. 25, 2011.

JIMMERSON PINKNEY "J.P." MOAK '62
of Bogue Chitto, died May 12, 2011.

MAYOTHA "MARGE" BARHAM SIMS '62
of Annadale, Va., died Apr. 13, 2011.

DR. GERALD E. BELUE '64
of Niceville, Fl., died June 4, 2011.

KENNETH R. PEARL '64
of Spring, Tx., died July 8, 2011.

PATRICIA DIANE CARPENTER '65
of Biloxi, died May 4, 2011.

BETTY HOLLAND PARSONS '65
of Wiggins, died June 3, 2011.

PATSY JOYCE MYRICK TONKEL '65
of Jackson, died June 9, 2011.

LIONEL N. ELEUTERIUS '66
of Ocean Springs, died Apr. 24, 2011.

CHELLIE DELL THOMAS ORMON '66
of Starkville, died May 13, 2011.

LOUIS & PAULA CRAFT '68
of Laurel, died Apr.23, 2011.

MARGUERITE K. SINGLETON '68
of Summit, died May 18, 2011.

BOBBY F. RIVERS '68
of Meridian, died Apr. 24, 2011.

BARBARA JOAN HOUSTON MCCOLLUM '69
of Denver, Co., died May 9, 2011.

LAURA GOYER ROGERS '69
of Jackson, died Apr. 28, 2011.

JOHNNIE KATHRYN SPRABERRY SPENCE '69
of Gulfport, died Apr. 23, 2011.

STERLING NEWTON BROWN '70
of Baton Rouge, La., died Apr. 17, 2011.

DON G. HARRIS '70
of Magee, died June 6, 2011.

GUIDA THOMAS LLOYD '70
of Mandeville, La., died May 2, 2011.

RHEA P. LOMAX JR. '70
of Laurel, died May 9, 2011.

MARY LOUISE HOLT HERTZ-CARTER '72
of Mobile, Al., died May 29, 2011.

SHERRIE FORD '72
of Franklin, Ky., died Apr. 18, 2011.

ROSALIE BURKES DANIELS, PHD '73
of Crystal Springs, died May 2, 2011.

DR. BRYAN F. MCCRAW '73
of Columbia, died May 24, 2011.

THOMAS A. TRAXLER '73
of Madison, died June 29, 2011.

ANNE GILLIAM HORD '74
of Hattiesburg, died June 18, 2011.

HATTIE ROSE KING MARSHALL '74
of Natchez, died Apr. 28, 2011.

EDWARD T. EMERSON '75
of Slidell, La., died June 26, 2011.

LEO LACKIE '75
of Pass Christian, died May 2, 2011.

JAMES A. LIVINGSTON '75
of Quitman, died May 11, 2011.

JANET LYNN KEEN SMITH '75
of Brookhaven, died May 23, 2011.

ROSEMARY HAYES WILLIAMS '75
of Gulfport, died May 15, 2011.

ROBERT B. HOWELL, JR. '77
of Milford, Ct., died Apr.15, 2011.

DOROTHY A. LAVIGNE-ANTOINE '78
of Pass Christian, died June 17, 2011.

DR. BESSIE SWANSON BRYANT '78
of Huntsville, Al., died May 27, 2011.

MARK I. MANGUM '78
of Ridgeland, died Apr. 9, 2011.

WILLIAM PERCY GRIMSLEY '79
of Hattiesburg, died Apr. 15, 2011.

TIMOTHY JOHN FAVRE '80
of Perkinston, died June 24, 2011.

RALPH JOSEPH FOECKE '80
of Ocean Springs, died June 27, 2011.

KIM LOFTIS PIGUE '80
of Mobile, Al., died June 26, 2011.

RONNY W. WILLIAMSON '80
of Central, Sc., died July 2, 2011.

DR. KIM MYRICK STASNY '81
of Oxford, died May 4, 2011.

CHRISTOPHER MARVIN CUYLER '82
of Amissville, Va., died May 9, 2011.

GEORGE GROVNER DISK '84
of Evans, Ga., died May 30, 2011.

GLENN BROOKS '86
of Libertyville, Il., died June 13, 2011.

HUGH W. GRIFFON JR. '86
of Biloxi, died June 26, 2011.

SHELLMAN L. SMITH JR. '88
of Denison, Tx., died Apr. 19, 2011.

PHILLIP B. HENDRIX '89
of Hattiesburg, died May 11, 2011.

DANNY H. MARSHALL '95
of Clinton, died May 12, 2011.

DARYL D. SEALS '95
of Laurel, died July 4, 2011.

M. ALLEN HALE '96
of Hattiesburg, died June 10, 2011.

SELLERS B. NORRIS II '96
of Purvis, died May 7, 2011.

RODNEY L. LOVIN '98
of Biloxi, died May 29, 2011.

LELA MERLE CANNADA PUCKETT '98
of Knoxville, Tn., died June 11, 2011.

REAN MICHELLE MCPHERSON BLACKMON '99
of Escatawpa, died June 3, 2011.

ANNA MARIE HEBERT HALLORAN '02
of Columbus, Ga., died May 1, 2011.

SONYA MARIE REEVES '05
of McComb, died Nov.17, 2009.

TAMMY FERGUSON JOHNSON '07
of Biloxi, died June 26, 2011.

FRANCIS "FRANK" DELMAR BEATTY
of Poplarville, died Jan. 8, 2011.

JACKIE BICKHAM
of Crockett, Tx., died May 20, 2011.

TIM FITZPATRICK
of Jackson, died June 27, 2011.

HARVELL HARRIS SR.
of Hattiesburg, died May 2, 2011.

BILLY E. LEE
of Starkville, died June 30, 2011.

DR. JESSE TALBOT LITTLETON III
of Theodore, Ala., died May 22, 2011.

LANCE C. LOGAN
of Hattiesburg, died July 14, 2011.

JAMES V. MATHIS
of Hattiesburg, died July 1, 2011.

FERN MORRIS MCWHORTER LYTER
of Hattiesburg, died Dec. 30, 2009.

DR. LINWOOD E. ORANGE
of Hattiesburg, died June 22, 2011.

MARJORIE N. ORANGE
of Hattiesburg, died June 10, 2011.

CAPT. THOMAS MALONE SIMS
of Annadale, Va., died Mar. 14, 2011.

ARCHIE BENTON TAAKE
of Gulfport, died Apr. 27, 2011.

CELESTIAN J. TAYLOR
of Hattiesburg, died May 15, 2011.

ANNA A. TUCHAK
of Ocean Springs, died June 16, 2011.

LYNNDA C. WHITTINGTON
of Baton Rouge, La., died Apr. 21, 2011.

HERMAN W. WOODARD
of Clarksdale, died Apr. 23, 2011.

C.A.R.D.

Current Alumni Retail Discounts

This listing contains current participants in The University of Southern Mississippi Alumni Association's C.A.R.D. Program. By presenting either your Southern Miss Alumni Association annual dues membership card or your Life Membership card, you will receive the discount noted by each participant. The program is designed to bring added value to your membership in the Alumni Association and to thank you for your support of Southern Miss.

Aaron's Sales and Lease	*50% discount on first month's payment on any new lease agreement*
Anderson's Rug Market	*10% discount on any rug purchase*
Ashley's Sporting Goods	*10% discount on total purchases (some restrictions apply)*
Bourne Brothers Printing	*10% discount on any service*
Brownstone's LLC	*10% discount on entrees*
Caliente Grille	*10% off of total purchase*
Classic Concepts/ACE Home Center	*10% discount on purchases or rentals*
Comfort Inn-The Lodge *	*10% off rack rate*
Comfort Suites *	*10% off rack rate*
Command Spanish, Inc	*20% discount on online language courses at commandspanishonline.com when applying USMAA20 promotional code*
Expectations	*15% discount on total purchase (does not apply to furniture)*
Firehouse Subs	*Free drink with purchase of sandwich*
The First, A Natl. Banking Assoc.	*$200 discount on closing costs on mortgage loans*
Garfield's Restaurant *	*20% discount on all food & drink purchases*
Golden Eagle Storage	*5% discount on rental*
Grand Bank	*$100 discount on mortgage loan closing costs*
Heritage Vision Center	*10% discount on all eyeglasses and sunglasses for regular members and 20% discount for Life Members*
Holiday Inn	*10% off rack rate*
Holiday Inn Express, Lucedale	*15% off standard room rate*
Hopson Law Firm, PLLC	*Free initial consultation on any contingency fee case, 10% discount on consultation fee on non-contingency cases*
J and L Sales	*10% discount on any purchase*
King Photography	*10% discount on photography, excluding senior portraits*
Kitchen Table	*10% discount on cooking classes*
Lance Computer Systems	*20% discount on normal labor charges*
Leatha's Bar-B-Que Inn	*10% discount on all purchases*
McLeod & Associates, P.A.	*10% discount on estate planning, business entity formation and other legal services*
Mike's Tire and Wheel	*10% discount on all sales*
Neblett's Frame Outlet	*10% discount on purchases*
Newk's Express Café	*10% discount on purchases, excluding alcohol*
Oak Grove Plaza Package Store	*10% discount on purchases*
Oak Grove Rental	*10% discount on rental items / not valid with other offer*
O'Charley's	*10% discount on all purchases, excluding alcohol*
Owen's Business Machines	*10% discount on selected items*
Parris Jewelers	*10% discount on all items*
Pine Burr Country Club	*$5 off one 18-hole round of golf*
Priceless Rent-a-Car	*10% discount on rental cars, trucks and passenger vans*
Prime Mortgage, Inc.	*$250 closing cost discount*
Signs First *	*15% discount on Southern Miss-related signs*
Simmons Furniture	*10% discount on all items*
The Sleep Number Store by Select Comfort	*Free pillow when you find your Sleep Number setting*
Sonic Drive Inn on Hwy 11	*Free 20 oz. drink or slush with purchase of #1 or #2 burger*
Southern Interiors	*5% discount on flooring*
Southern Oaks Catering	*10% discount on takeout orders (weddings excluded)*
Southern Oaks Florist	*15% discount on funeral, hospital and home arrangements (weddings excluded)*
Southern Oaks House and Gardens	*20% discount on facility and room rentals*
The Spicy Pickle	*10% discount with alumni card*
Tall Pines Farm	*10% discount on gift baskets and catering*
Tranquility Day Spa	*10% member discount, 15% discount for Life Members on all services, not valid with other discounts*
University Florist	*10% discount on all purchases (excluding holiday's and wire outs)*
Villie's Subs	*$1 off order of six-inch sandwich, side order and large drink* *$1 off game day party subs*

^ All discounts subject to change or termination without prior notice. Please verify discount with provider before making purchase. *Hattiesburg locations only.

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SOUTHERN MISS TRiVIA

Answers below are to questions asked on Page 13.

1. Edmond F. Noel, Governor, 1908-12
2. Seymour d'Campus, which was inspired by the 1984 World's Fair mascot
3. 1955, when it was penned by Robert Hays, assistant director of The Pride of Mississippi Marching Band.
4. Located on the interior patio of Owings-McQuagge Hall, the Roberts Schoolhouse is a one-room schoolhouse where Dr. M. M. Roberts received his early education. It was reassembled on the Southern Miss campus in 1981 and is still open for tours and visitors.

How did you score?

Southern Scenes

Five-Tiered, Open Zone Parking Garage

The grand opening of The University of Southern Mississippi's new parking garage signaled the addition of approximately 1,200 vehicle spaces to the Hattiesburg campus.

Built in response to a need for additional parking options, it also includes security lighting, handicapped parking and elevators and is patrolled regularly by the University Police Department. It is located off of West Fourth Street next to Bond Hall.

Student Government Association President Erick Brown of Columbus praised University officials for responding to the requests of students for additional parking with the project.

Vehicle registration fees funded the construction cost of the $15.5 million structure, financed through the University's first public/private third party construction partnership, Eagle Parking LLC. This developer consortium is composed of five local companies and a consultant.

Built by Finlo Construction and L and A Construction of Hattiesburg and designed by Albert and Associates architectural firm of Hattiesburg, it is the first multi-level parking facility on a university campus in the state.

"The garage not only provides an increase in total parking spaces, but also replaces those lost after construction of the Century Park residential complex and reduces traffic flow in and around campus," said Southern Miss President Martha Saunders at the facility's opening. "This project is an important cornerstone in our campus master plan and is much needed as we continue to grow in enrollment."

Other safety features of the parking garage include 10 Code Blue phones tied into the University's 911 system; elevator emergency phones with direct contact to the University Police Department (UPD); 50+ video cameras; lighting throughout to include exterior and stairwells; and a fire monitoring system.

In line with the University's sustainability efforts, the University reduces the "heat island" effect by 400 percent with the new garage by stacking parking on five levels. The facility also represents the University's commitment to protecting green space on the Hattiesburg campus. Duplicating the garage's 1,200 spaces would have required surface parking equivalent to an area the size of eight football fields.

Photo By Kelly Dunn

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October 8 :: 4 to 9 pm :: FREE

CITY OF HATTIESBURG CONCERT BAND
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